**CONGRATULATIONS to our 2010 Outstanding Volunteer – David Shattuck**

David began quilting in 1977-78 by helping his wife, Jane, make baby quilts for family members. David became a member of Minnesota Quilters by winning the MQ sponsored "Best First Quilt" award at the Minnesota State Fair in 1984. The award came with a free membership in Minnesota Quilters. That quilt also won “Best of Show” at the fair. David has often said his quilting career has been going downhill ever since!

David was first elected to the MQ Board in 1986 as membership director because he owned a PC. The first show committee he served on was as the Exhibit chair for the Mankato show in 1989. So far he has served on the Board for 13 years and served on 14 show committees. David served as President of Minnesota Quilters and as the chairperson for 2 shows.

David was part of the Minnesota Quilt Project from its founding and worked most of the early “Quilt Discovery Days.”

Thank you, David Shattuck, for all you do to help make Minnesota Quilters the great organization it is for so many quilters. Congratulations on being our Outstanding Volunteer!

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**Happy Birthday to MQ!**

Minnesota Quilters celebrated its 32nd birthday at our April meetings with quilts, cake, and song. Many thanks to the MQ members who shared their quilts with us in our annual 10 by 5 presentation. We saw a wonderful variety of quilts, garments, and other quilted items from Rose Allen, Nancy Birger, Yvonne Curran, Carol Mayala, Mary Lou Murray, and Nannette Sutherland.

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**May Meeting Notes**

**Thursday, May 6, 7:00 pm**

**Saturday, May 8, 10:00 am**

May meetings feature Jan Krueger and Linda Marcou and their SCRAPBUSTERS trunk show and lecture. Jan and Linda say, “Turn your stash into an explosion of scrap quilts and make everyone happy! From traditional to contemporary, we’ll share stories, fabric secrets, pattern ideas, and more.” They’re bringing an extensive handout of sources, patterns, and ideas to share with us.

In addition, Jan and Linda will offer a workshop on Friday, May 7, titled, “Trip X Two,” a scrap Trip Around the World quilt using simple strip sets. The workshop registration form is on page 4.

Jan Krueger is from Hales Corner, WI. She has more than 25 years of experience in fabric arts, and will bring us timeless concepts and techniques—inspired by her mentor Mary Ellen Hopkins—that ensure success and satisfaction for quilters of all levels. You can check out Jan’s website, Hearthside Quilters Nook, at www.hearthsidequiltersnook.com.

Linda Marcou, owner of Fine Threads, an online business in Menomonee Falls, WI, has 27 years of quilting experience and quilt shop ownership, which allow her to bring a continuous array of ideas to inspire quilters to use their stash and accomplish unique and satisfying projects. Linda’s website is www.finethreads.biz

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**March 2010 Donations total $985**

$100-$499
- Sandy Beltran through Truist
- Loris Goth
- Ruth Herbst
- Susan Nelson
- Helen Olson
- Miki Peine
- Char Wenger
- Sandra Weston

$5-$49
- Margaret Baker
- Linda Booth
- Doris Mielke
Notes from the President

Congratulations to David Shattuck for being chosen our 2010 Outstanding Volunteer! Please see the article about David in the newsletter. Thank you, David, for the many volunteer hours that you have put in for MQ over the years. We have many outstanding volunteers and I wish we could honor them all. It is always a difficult choice for the Board. If your favorite volunteer did not win the award this year, please consider nominating them again next year. Please feel free to write them a thank you note to tell them how much you appreciate their efforts and time that they give to MQ.

At the February member meetings, we handed out a brief survey to those in attendance. The first question we asked was “What does MQ mean to you?” I was touched by some of the responses. One person wrote, “I have been an MQ member since the middle 1970’s. I can’t begin to explain how MQ has enriched my life.” The overall theme of most of the responses was one of how much the friendships, community, inspiration and educational aspects of MQ mean to them. Another person wrote, “It is integral to my growth as a quilter and affords an opportunity to know and share with the large guild membership and all its diversity of quilting styles.” Please see the responses in an article in this newsletter.

On the flip side, we also asked, “How would your life be affected if MQ was not around?” We received some short answers, such as “I’d be sad.” and some longer answers – “I would miss the MQ Quilt Show most of all – quilts and vendors – but would also miss the meeting with great show and tell and exchange of ideas.”

Please ask yourself these two questions and see how you would have answered them. The Board is also taking a hard look at these questions. We want MQ to be a relevant and vibrant part of our member’s lives and the quilting community as a whole. In order to do this, we may have to make some changes. We cannot continue to do things a certain way just because “it has always been done that way”. We need all of our members to try to understand why we need to make changes and to support the Board as we implement these changes. The Board only wants what is best for MQ and to insure its future. As I stated in an earlier newsletter, MQ does not exist for the Board, it exists for the membership.

What changes we may make, I do not know at this point, but as we continue to work through our strategic planning and our budget short falls, I hope you will remember your answers to those two questions – “What does MQ mean to you?” and “How would your life be affected if MQ was not around?” Please come see me and the other Board members at the Board table at the St. Cloud Show. We will be happy to hear your comments and answer your questions.

“Our lives are like quilts – bit and pieces, joy and sorrow, stitched with love.” - Char Wenger

MQ Logo Update from Charlotte Wenger, MQ President

Over the past 10 months, the board and a volunteer team of 6-7 members spent considerable time developing dozens of alternatives to the existing logo for Minnesota Quilters. This was one of many action items that were identified during the 2008-09 strategic planning. While many members are very loyal to the existing logo, others felt (and still believe) that it needs an update. After many months of considering options, four logos were presented to the membership in January. Unfortunately, there was no clear winner in the group.

The board asked the development team to present new versions but still failed to find a strong recommendation. At it's discretion, the board has decided that other issues (such as finding ways to increase membership and revenues) made it less important to focus on this issue at this time. The board wants to thank the many volunteers who gave considerable time to this effort. We are saddened that we cannot present a new logo this year, but we do not want to change the logo unless we can come up with one that we are very proud of and that says, "We are the Minnesota Quilters" loud and clear.

The 2011 show will be announced under the current logo and will be known as "The Minnesota Quilters Inc. Annual Quilt Show and Conference."

The current plan is to set logo re-design aside and focus on other activities, such as finding more members, preparing for another show and trying to generate new revenues to support the many educational and charitable activities for which Minnesota Quilters is known.
MINNESOTA QUILTERS IS GOING GREENER!

Dear Member,

As a volunteer driven organization, we too are struggling with rising costs and declining income (membership and donations). In order for MQ to maintain a level of professionalism, support members and live greener we are changing the newsletter and its distribution. If your email address is on file, you will receive the newsletter electronically even if you have signed up to receive the newsletter via postal mail.

The mailed newsletter will be smaller to allow for less paper usage, printed in the office, then assembled and mailed by MQ volunteers. The online version will contain color photos, more articles, recipes, block of the month, book reviews, your letters answered by board members, guild announcements, and much more.

We want and need to stay relevant with today’s changing world and economy. So that you - as a valued member - of MQ can better understand the reason behind this change, I offer the following. Each month it costs MQ between $1000 and $1500 to produce and mail the newsletter. To mail out an abbreviated version to members who don’t have an email on file it will cost about $100.

Everyone has access to the Internet either at home or at the library. Hopefully, soon we will have the newsletter set up as a member only access area on the MQ website.

- Jean Carr, Communications Director

March Board Meeting Highlights

The Board will have a Financial Retreat on April 24. The Board plans to analyze each activity of MQ in terms of costs and benefits.

Jean Carr was approved to finish out Diane Moe’s term as Communications Director.

President Char Wenger and other Board members planned to visit with the St. Cloud quilt guild on April 8. On their agenda was to ask the St. Cloud group for help with the MQ 2010 show, and to talk to them of the advantages of MQ membership.

Lou Roos was approved to serve as chair for the MQ 2011 Show in St. Paul. Her stepping forward allows plans for the show to go forward.

Next meetings of the MQ Board are April 20 and May 18. Guests are always welcome.

Ask the Board . . . ?

This new column will attempt to answer questions from the membership. Please send your questions to president@mnquilt.org or mail a note to the office – Attention: President.

This month’s question: What is the Board doing about our financial deficit in addition to fundraising?

Answer: As of this writing, the Board is planning to have a financial retreat in April. At that retreat, we plan to look at all program areas and decide what we can do to make financial changes. Part of the problem for 2009-2010 is that the current Show was already put into motion at the time the budget was approved. The 2011 Show budget is already being worked on to try to change that. There were many expenses we could not change for the 2010 Show. Our 2010 Show Chairs did everything in their power to cut costs – the registration books were smaller and not as many were ordered, they had the post cards with show information printed rather than having both the bookmarks and a quilt post card. They are also charging $1 for a Show book instead of giving them away.

At this point, I don’t know what changes will be made, but some may be drastic. We may change to one meeting per month, we may cut back on the number of newsletters per year, membership fees may be restructured, we may change the structure of the banquet, we may change show venues, some fees may have to be increased, etc. None of these things are certain to happen, but they are ideas that have been tossed around and will be discussed at our financial retreat. The membership should be prepared for changes to be made over the next couple of years to make us a leaner organization.

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May Class with Jan Krueger and Linda Marcou

Trip X Two

9 am to 4 pm
Friday, May 7
at Textile Center of MN

Be ready to be-dazzle everyone. You’ll produce two Trip Around the World blocks that are total opposites of each other by cutting apart and re-sewing simple strip sets. This quilt gives you ample space to play with your fabrics. Words alone can’t describe what the eye enjoys.

This is a class for all levels. Bring your sewing machine.

Class Fee for MQ Members: $40, Non Members: $55

Name: ___________________________________ MQ Member #: ___________________
Address: _______________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________________ State: __________________ Zip: _______________
Email: __________________________________ Phone: ___________________________

Registration fee is non-refundable unless the class is cancelled. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first served basis and a wait list will be created once the class is filled, but we’ve got a lot of room in this class, so bring all your friends for a fun day of sewing.

Send this form and payment by check to Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. SE, Suite 120, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

Questions: ed@mnquilt.org. Supply list will be sent upon class registration.

What does MQ mean to you? At the February Member meetings, we passed out a short survey. The first question is listed below and here are the responses that we received. You can see that MQ members do care about MQ and appreciate all that MQ does. We will run answers to the other questions in future newsletters. Think about what your answer would be to this question.

What does MQ mean to you?
- It is a great group of women and one I love being a part of.
- It is a wonderful source of information. An even greater way to form friendships.
- Community/learning/fun.
- A group of wonderful people sharing a common interest.
- I am happy to be a member. I enjoy the meetings, but only go four times or so per year. Newsletter isn’t very valuable.
- Camaraderie; education.
- It is integral to my growth as a quilter and affords an opportunity to know and share with the large guild membership and all its diversity of quilting styles.
- It means a source for education and information. I love the shows.
- Inspiration, education, community, history. Opportunity to give back through volunteering.
- An evening out with friends.
- I enjoy many aspects – the meetings, the education, making new friends.
- A continuing inspiration.
- Friends with like interests, education, charity.
- A chance to learn from other quilters about quilting as well as historic significance of quilting. Encouragement and support. Friendships!
- I have been an MQ member since the middle 70’s. I can’t begin to explain how MQ has enriched my life.
- Great opportunity to learn and see what others are quilting.
- New friends.

April BOM winner: Melissa Nellis won 12 blocks.

KELWOOD RETREAT HOUSE

$30.00 per nite (2 nite, 5 person min)

Website: WWW.KELWOOD.COM
Check website for Specials
Lois & Dave Kelley 651-437-4414
On Hwy 61 S of Hastings, MN

Jubilee Quilting Services
Longarm Machine Quilting

Randi Helling  Shoreview, MN
651-340-8305
randi@jubileequilting.com

More information and photos of work at www.jubileequilting.com
Trip X Two

Description
Trip X Two’s an energized variation of the traditional Trip Around the World. Strip piecing and a nifty method of organization create light and dark blocks that look spectacular. This is a technique class using simple strip sets that you’ll bring to class. Here’s a quilt that gives you ample space to play with your fabrics.

Supply List

Fabrics:
⅛ yard of 8 fabrics shaded from light to dark in one color family
Choose scraps from your stash. They should be the whole width of the fabric. (No fat quarters.) If you finish early and want to go on, you can bring another set of 8 fabrics for an additional block.

Notions:
Sewing machine with manual
Extension cord
Fabric spray sizing
Thread for piecing
Seam ripper - necessary
Basic sewing supplies including pins, scissors, ruler and anything you use at your machine at home.
Rotary cutter and mat
6” and 24” ruler - necessary
Shape Cut Ruler by June Taylor (if you have one)
Post-It notes or tabs
Iron to share
Trip X Two pattern will be available for purchase at the workshop

Preparation for Class:
1. Cut Two - 2” wide strips from each of your 8 fabrics (width of fabric)
2. Sew these into 2 identical strips-sets shaded from dark to light. MAKE SURE YOU USE A LONGER STITCH LENGTH. (The stitch-length range on my sewing machine is 0-5 and I set my length to 3.)
3. Press the seam allowances - one strip-set towards the dark and one strip-set towards the light.

This must be done before class; otherwise, you’ll spend all your time making strip-sets. Bring these strip-sets to class on a hanger and also all extra fabric
Board of Directors - Open Position Nominees

The Minnesota Quilters Board of Directors has a number of positions open for the years starting Oct. 1, 2010. The following is a list of those positions, how long the term runs and those people that are currently nominated for these positions. If you are interested in putting your name on the ballot please contact Mary Brandt, Past President at ppres@mnquilt.org.

VOTING: All MQ members are encouraged to vote for the new Board members. We will vote at the Annual Meeting, Friday June 18th, during the quilt show, or you can vote at the Board of Directors table at the show or you can request a ballot from the MQ office. If you choose to vote in this way, your ballot will then need to be returned to the MQ office by June 30, 2010.

President Elect - 1 year term with 1 year as president and 1 year as past president following. Nominee - Wynn Martin
Treasurer - 2 year term. Nominee - Sandra Weston
Education Director - 2 year term. Nominee - Laura Nagel
Operations Co-director - 2 year term. Nominees - Mary Pozzini and Carol Fisher

Only 1 of the 2 persons nominated for the position of Operations Co-director will be elected. This position is staggered between 2 co-directors to help keep continuity in the job.

Carol Fisher – Operations Co-director
I have been quilting since Oct 98. It all started with a trip to the Duluth Quilt Show in 1997. The bug bit me and away I went. I volunteered for the St. Paul Show in 2003 as the Door Prize co-Chair. I spent time in the MQ Library when we were in the Machinist Hall. I spend a lot of time organizing my stash and making quilts for the St. Helen's Church in south Minneapolis. I have 5 children and 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

Mary Pozzini – Operations Co-director
My name is Mary Pozzini and I would like to join the Minnesota Quilters Board as an operations director. I have worked at Regions Hospital as an RN for more than 40 years and still work very partime in the Trauma Unit. I am reliable, organized and a very good listener. I learned to sew in 4-H at 13 and never quit. My first quilting lesson was 28 years ago and I learned how to do everything by hand. I wore out my thumb joints hand quilting and had the joints replaced and they work amazingly well now. I purchased a long arm quilting machine 3 years ago with my friend Char Simonet. We are "Two Quilting Ladies" and have been having a great time. I belong to 2 guilds in Stillwater and joined MQ 2 years ago. I am a door prize co-chair for the 2010 show.

Wynn Martin – President Elect
Wynn is a beginning quilter with 3 years of practice on baby quilts, lap quilts and a few unfinished art quilt projects. She knows she will always look at quilting books but will never follow the recommended design because improvisation is at least half the fun. Wynn is a senior director of marketing and strategy at RAZR Marketing and has many years’ experience developing frequent shopper programs. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, and also studied at the Minneapolis College of Art & Design. Beyond quilting and marketing, Wynn has two life-long passions. She is an avid potter, having completed 3 years of classes at Northern Clay Studios in Minneapolis. She also enjoys long-distance boating, including a year of live-aboard travel with her husband, Larry, aboard their trawler, WyLaWay. Wynn lives in St Paul with her husband Larry and Miss Lucy, her beloved Cavalier King Charles spaniel. Wynn was traveling in 2007 when a childhood friend of her husband introduced her to quilting and invited her to join a round robin. Upon arriving home, Wynn decided to take a quilting class and then joined Minnesota Quilters in May 2008. Soon she volunteered to help Minnesota Quilters with a member survey project and has been actively supporting MQ ever since with strategic planning and other assignments.

Sandra Weston - Treasurer
Sandra is a quilter, married, mother, step-mother, grandmother and an experienced finance professional with over thirty years of not-for-profit and government service. As a licensed CPA backed up with an MBA from Saint Thomas University, Sandra has worked as CFO, Controller or Director of Finance at Minnesota Medical Foundation, Minneapolis Community & Technical College, American Red Cross, Ecumen and Parker Hughes Institute among others. She is former Treasurer of the Board of East Side Neighborhood Service in NE Minneapolis, and has provided pro bono services to the Nagasaki Sister City group in St. Paul, the Red Lake Nation Boys & Girls Club, and other small not-for-profits and assisted as show treasurer for the 2007 and 2009 MN Quilters shows. Sandra has been sewing all of her life but only started quilting about 15 years ago. Quilting provides a creative outlet of colors, shapes and textures that balances out the hours of black and white spreadsheets which occupy so much of her day. She has been a member of MN Quilters since 2000.

Laura Nagel – Education Director
I have been quilting since 1982 when I took a quilting class to finish my great-grandmother’s crazy quilt. I was totally hooked, and gave away all my other hobby/craft supplies and have focused on quilting ever since. I was actively involved in my Colorado quilt group, and joined Minnesota Quilters in 1988 before I moved here. It didn’t take long to become involved on show committees and board positions. I have worked on Door Prizes, Facilities Coordinator, and Special Events committees, and Co-Chaired two shows. As a board member I have served several times as Evening Director and lecture series coordinator. When not working on my own projects, I teach classes in quilt history at local shops. I have an ever-growing stash, more ideas than I’ll ever get to, and UFOs to last a lifetime, but that never stops me from getting excited about new fabrics, new patterns, or new techniques. I look forward to working with Minnesota Quilters as we look to the future of our organization and our influence in the quilting community.
Volunteer Corner

Hello to all our wonderful MQ members. I am the new volunteer coordinator, and I would love to talk to you at meetings. We have many wonderful volunteers, and our strong organization cannot run without you. In the near future we are going to make a list of all the available volunteer opportunities at MQ. In the mean time I would like to make a distribution list of all our members that would like to volunteer. Please send me an email at volunteer@mnquilt.org to add you to the list and tell me some of your interests.

Current available positions:

2011 MQ Show Chair(s)
Lou Roos has volunteered to Co-Chair the 2011 Show and would appreciate one more motivated, organized person to co-chair the MQ Show in St. Paul. You will get help from Linda Lysdahl, our Show Coordinator and the Board of Directors, plus all the wonderful people that sign up to fill the Committees. Prerequisite – major role at past MQ Shows or similar life/job experience.
Submit a letter/resume to Char Wenger, President at president@mnquilt.org or via regular mail to the MQ Office, Attention President.

2011 MQ Show Committees
There are a few show committee positions that still need to be filled. Contact President, Char Wenger, at president@mnquilt.org to find out what is available.

Membership Coordinator Evenings
This person facilitates the Membership table at the evening membership meeting, accepts membership applications, gives door prize tickets and answers membership questions. Contact Operations Directors at ops@mnquilt.org for further information.

Business Membership Coordinator
MQ launched a new Business Membership initiative that needs a leader. Business Members offer special discounts to MQ members who show their MQ membership cards. We need someone willing to check in with our current business members, and encourage new business members. Contact Cindy Wilson at prairiemn@yahoo.com for background information.

Photographers
We need one or two photographers to take pictures at both meetings for the newsletter. Contact Communication Director at comm@mnquilt.org for further information.

Door Greeters
We need one or two at each meeting to greet people as they come in the door. Contact Operations Directors at ops@mnquilt.org for further information.

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25th Anniversary Quilt - Mission Completed

The original concept for this quilt was to incorporate the themes of the past 24 Minnesota Quilters quilt shows with a block to represent each year pulling elements from the show theme, name and pins, and then design a special medallion for the center to represent the 25th anniversary of Minnesota Quilters. Kathy Barnes was the designer of the original 24 blocks.

The fabric was generously dyed and donated by Joan and Charly Skalbeck of Primrose Gradations for the Minnesota Quilters 2003 25th Anniversary show in St. Paul Minnesota. Due to unexpected circumstances, the quilt was never completed for that show, and the partially completed quilt blocks and fabric were kept intact with all original designs, with the exception of the center medallion which had not been designed yet, until arrangements could be made for its completion. Many conversations were held with the Skalbeck's to determine the disposition of this quilt. It was strongly expressed by Joan and Charly that they would like to see the quilt finished and placed in the MQ quilt collection.

Now with the help of the Minnesota Quilt Project under the direction of Susan MacLennan and Pat Cox, Pat Cox created the center design to represent Minnesota Quilters 25th year and Susan and Pat came up with the setting placement and now this quilt has been completed and Joan and Charly's wish is a reality. As Joan Skalbeck passed away during last year’s 2009 Duluth show, this is a glowing tribute to the fabric dyeing work she did in support of Minnesota Quilters and quilters across the country.

We wish to thank all the people who have helped with this project and acknowledge their commitment of time, energy and expertise:

· Joan and Charly Skalbeck and Primrose Gradations for the generous donation of the fabrics used in the quilt;
· Kathy Barnes for her design work;
· Original 11 blocks completed: Jane Shattuck, Linda Kosfeld, Linda Krueger, Carolyn Peters, Jackie Northrup and Judy Bowers (5 makers have not been identified as yet);
· Final 14 blocks: Pat Cox, Joanne Holzknecht (2), Susan MacLennan (2), Linda Krueger, Bernice Musech, Marlyce Payne, Miki Peine, Jean Loken, Gail Bakkom, Lynna Hastings, Joyce Ruppert, Karen Kopitzke;
· MQP for the quilt that became the replacement raffle quilt in 2003 and their efforts to bring this project to completion.

The quilt will now be included in the Minnesota Quilter’s permanent collection and will be displayed at the Minnesota Quilt Project booth at the St. Cloud Show for all to enjoy.

MQP are searching for the unknown makers of 5 of the original blocks. If you recognize your work, please contact Susan MacLennan at 612-522-4864 or www.randsmaclennan@msn.com so that we can fill in the missing history.
2010 Show Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are what make a successful show. YOU are the most valued and treasured resource Minnesota Quilters has. We need over 600 volunteers working together to put on a successful show. 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 don’t know when you can volunteer yet, but most of you already know your schedules and know your free time.

We are asking for two hours. Grab a friend or two and sign up to work together or sign up alone and meet some new friends. We 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 for an assignment. Remember for every 2 hours that you work, your name is entered into the daily door prize and the grand prize drawing for the Pfaff sewing machine.

Thank you to all those who volunteer to work at the show. Feel free to contact us at volunteers10@mnquilt.org.

-Carolyn Minor and Arly Fuhr, 2010 Volunteer Co-Chairs

2010 Raffle Quilts tickets still available

To request raffle tickets, please contact the MQ Office at 3000 University Avenue SE, #120, Minneapolis, MN 55414 or by phone 612-436-0449 or email quilter@mnquilt.org. Raffle tickets are $1. You may also order raffle tickets as a part of your pre-show registration. By June 1, for every 10 tickets you sell, your name goes into a drawing for a $25 gift certificate from a quilt shop of your choice; for every 50 tickets you sell, your name also goes into a drawing for a $50 gift certificate from a quilt shop of your choice; for every 100 tickets you sell, your name also goes into a drawing for a $100 gift certificate from a quilt shop of your choice. The drawing is held on Saturday, June 19 at 4 pm at the St. Cloud Civic Center. You need not be present to win.

Thank you for your help in making this fundraiser a success.

Good luck!

-Carolyn Minor and Arly Fuhr

2010 Small Quilt Auction

Thank you so much to everyone who’s already donated to the Small Quilt Auction! Over sixty amazing quilted pieces—hangings, runners, quilts for laps and dolls, and bags are ready and waiting for the June exhibit. We’re thrilled to have so many beautiful quality items for the annual silent auction! Keep them coming—our goal is to show and auction one hundred.

The money raised from the Small Quilt Auction goes for educational purposes that the organization underwrites. And what’s in it for you? 1) Your quilted item will be beautifully displayed in a special section at the show! 2) You receive one ticket for each donated item to attend a lecture during the show. And, best of all, 3) for each item donated, we enter your name into a monthly drawing for a gift certificate to a quilt shop of your choice. Your name stays in the drawing until all drawings are complete at the end of May 2010. The winner of the March drawing is Kara Albrecht.

2010 Show Chairs’ Choice “Grandma Rocks”

Grandma Rocks! And, yes, so does GRANDPA. We’d like to see quilts you’ve made for your Grandma, Grandpa or Grandchild. 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 book and online.

- Jill Schultz and Jan Walstrom, 2010 Show Co-chairs

Admissions at the Quarry

If you or your friends plan to buy admissions tickets at the St. Cloud Civic Center, be ready to see a familiar quilter's face! MN Quilters provides our own admissions sales people in St. Cloud, unlike at our other three venues.

Daily armbands are $10 for non-members and $8 for members. A three-day pass is $25, or $15 for members. Children, 3-10 are $5.

If you are able to volunteer some of your time, please contact Carolyn at cminor@winternet.com to help welcome visitors to the 2010 show. Your friendly face and efficient sales talent will be appreciated. - Jeanne LaMoore, Admissions Co-Chair

2010 Special Events

We would like to remind all of you who have banquet reservations to stop by the information table on Thursday or before noon Friday to reserve a table seat. This is a good way to make new friends or to join your long time friends for an evening of fun at the Holiday Inn.

There are still tickets available for the banquet. Last year, many people were disappointed as they looked for tickets once they arrived. We need to confirm the dinners in advance, so don’t delay, sign up today! Cathy Miller, the Singing Quilter, is sure to amaze us with her laughter, song and quilts. See you in St Cloud. - Jean Back and Janet Houle, Special Events

by Kathie Simon Frank and Rita Culshaw, Co-chairs

You still have a month to enter. Look at your UFO’s for ideas. Consider finishing up that tote bag, purse, table runner or wall hanging that just needs a binding and a label. Everything you donate to the Small Quilt Auction can help raise money for Minnesota Quilters. We are so grateful for all your contributions!

Please sew a label to the back of your quilt that includes your name, the title of the piece, the date and city where the quilt was made. Successful bidders like to know who made the quilt they won. We also need your name, address, phone number and title and value of the piece so that we may enter you into the drawing and send you a lecture ticket. Please securely pin that information to the back. Thank you so much. We look forward to receiving your beautiful small quilted items before the end of May.

You may bring them to Thursday or Saturday meetings, or mail them to Minnesota Quilters, c/o Small Quilt Auction, 3000 University Avenue SE, Mpls, MN 55414. Many thanks!
2010 Special Exhibits

This year’s show will feature many wonderful special exhibits, including an exhibit on the hand-dyeing process by Fiber Artist Jill Robinson; antique quilts for children and their dolls; Star Quilts by the Minnesota Quilt Project; and others.

We are also featuring quilts by members, including American Patchwork and Quilting “I am a Quilter” project entries, and quilts previously displayed at the Minnesota State Fair. We encourage all MQ members (and non-members) to consider entering a quilt in one of these two displays. Entries to the “I am a Quilter” display should be a 9” x 12” mini-quilt that represents who you are as a quilter. For some great ideas, see the June 2010 issue of American Patchwork and Quilting, or log on to AllPeopleQuilt.com/mystery to see what quilters nationwide have created. Anyone who has won a first, second or third place ribbon at the State Fair is encouraged to show it off again in St. Cloud.

Submit your entries on the Non-Judged entry form, but send your entry to Laura Nagel, 7885 Lower 139th Court West, Apple Valley, MN 55124 and not to the Non-Judged committee. Thanks!

Re-energize After the Show

Imagine it's June and you have just attended "Quilting in the Quarry" in St. Cloud. You admired and were inspired by the quilts on display. Perhaps you took a class, attended a lecture, or participated in the special events. Maybe you put in a couple of hours or more volunteering. The amazing variety of vendors grabbed your attention and some of your quilt show budget. The Small Quilt Auction had so many wonderful items that you made several bids. You may even be jumping for joy because a quilt that you entered won a ribbon!

No matter how many hours or days you spend at "Quilting in the Quarry," when you leave the show you will be tired. Very happy, but tired. To recharge your battery, to get re-energized, stop at one or both of these scenic wonders on your way home: Quarry Park and Nature Preserve on the west side of St. Cloud, or the Munsinger and Clemens Gardens on the east side.

Quarry Park offers the hard-edged beauty of old granite quarries, many of them filled with water. Munsinger and Clemens Gardens provide serene areas to wander among hundreds of colorful flowers. Both places will fill you with awe.

The St. Cloud Area Convention and Visitors Bureau will have a booth at the show, next to the show information desk. Both places will have directions to these sites. To get directions before you go to the show, check out www.munsingerclemens.com or www.granitecountry.com

2010 Door Prizes

Many thanks to all the donors that have already contributed door prizes. We don’t have enough yet and we are hoping that quilters and businesses will bring door prizes to the 2010 Show. The May MQ meetings are the last time to bring door prizes to a meeting, however, door prizes may be dropped off at the volunteer table at the Show.

Door prizes collected are for the whole year of meeting and events. They need to be new or near new quilting related items. Items that you would like to receive as a prize. Items that don’t quite fit the criteria go on the free table and find a new home that way. Chocolate is quilt related.

Please label each donation with your name, address, dollar value of items and 2010 door prizes. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. Every donation will be acknowledged. Door Prizes may be mailed to Mary Pozzini, 305 Darrell Ct., Stillwater MN 55082.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact us at doorprize10@mnquilt.org. - Mary Pozzini and Char Simonet, Door Prize Co-Chairs

Fat Quarter Drawing

May - desserts/sweets. Contribute up to three fat quarters of quilt-shop quality 100% cotton fabric in the theme of the month and your name is in the drawing for that month (one entry for each fat quarter, max. 3). Attach your name, address, and phone number to each fat quarter. Bring fat quarters to meetings or mail them to the MQ office, 3000 University Avenue SE #120, Mpls, MN 55414. Fat quarters should arrive before the Saturday meeting. Label the envelope “FQ Drawing.” One name is drawn on Saturday. Need not be present to win. Questions or theme suggestions, contact Cathie Cartwright, Adrienne Lemberg and Lorna Wainwright.
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” 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. Without these donations, the show would be very boring!

Please help MQ honor our 2010 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.

Baby Lock
Bernina of America represented by St. Cloud Sewing Center
Husqvarna Viking represented by St. Cloud Sewing Center
Pfaff Sewing Machines represented by Associated Sewing Supply Co.

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
Gruber’s Quilt Shop

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.

Cherrywood Fabrics, Inc.
Chickadee Hollow Designs
Country Keepsakes
Country Loft Quilt & Design
Emily’s Country Cottage
Nolting Longarm J & M Designs
EL, LLC, Dealer
Piecemakers Quilt Shop
Prairie Rose Quilt Shop
Primitive Gatherings LLC
Prints Charming
Quilted Treasures of Rogers
Quilting Books Unlimited
Rainbows & Calico Things Quilt Shop
Seams To Me
SewBatik
Starr Design Fabrics
Superior Threads
The Sampler
Thread And More
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
ABM International represented by Sew Pieceful Quilting
Attic Heirlooms
Aunt Annie's Quilts and Silks
Birch Creek Quilts & Embellishments
Bound in Stitches
Buttermilk Basin
Charlie’s E-Z Mat
Cutters / OLFA distributor
Cheryl Ann's Design
Wall LLC
Colorz for Quilts
Designer Fabrics
Easy Quilter
Fabri-Quilt, Inc.
Fabric Town
Front Porch Quilts

Glad Creations
Gunflint Lodge
Irena Bluhm Designs
Hmong Pandau Needlework
J & A Stitches
J.J. Stitches
Liberty Homestead
Martelli Enterprises
Mary Lue's Yarn & Ewe
Material Girl
Morgan Quality Products
Original Creations / MJP Designs, LLC
Patches and Petals
Pincushion Boutique
Quilted In Clay
Quilted Memories LLC
Quilter’s Dream
River City Quilts
Sue's Fabric World
The Quilter's Cottage
The Stash Store
Tiger Textiles
Treasured Threads
Willow Wood Market

Raffle Quilt Makers for 2011

It’s in the works! Twenty-five MQ members began cutting out the 2011 raffle quilt. The Board approved Judy Martin’s “Shakespeare in the Park” in her book: The Creative Pattern Book: Complete Patterns, Intriguing Ideas and Musing on the Creative Process, pub. 2000 by Crosley-Griffith. And Judy Martin has given MQ her permission to use her pattern. The quilt will be scrappy – blues, greens, and creams -- similar to the photo on page 80 of that book.

There are still opportunities to participate in this group project. Join us to make blocks, assemble the quilt top, make borders, and construct a backing, sandwich, quilt and bind. We want this to be truly representative of our large MQ community. There are roles for beginning to experienced quilter-makers. The reward is that we all win by making new friends, getting a chance to improve our quilt-making skills and learning new ones. Best of all, in the end we have a beautiful quilt to raffle off to raise money for the educational projects that MQ supports and sponsors.

Next meeting? After the May 8th meeting, at 12 noon in the auditorium many of us will begin to make blocks. Bring your sewing machine. If you wish to join us, or if you have questions about this group project, contact Kathie Simon Frank at kathie@umn.edu or 612-379-4253.
Sue Rutford and I went on a field trip this month to make new library purchases. We were very frugal in our shopping and I used the suggestions offered by many of you throughout the year, so thank you. The following is the list of new books for circulation in the MQ library.

*A Passion for Piecing* by Claudia Clark Myers. Claudia just revealed this 16 project book based on her award winning quilts, which we got to see “up close” at our March meeting. The book has beautiful pictures and helpful hints on how to use segments of paper piecing designs from her award winners to make all sizes of quilts. Not to miss is the About the Author and Acknowledgement section in the back of the quilt where we get to see Claudia’s log cabin, her husband and doggie, and of course all her quilt friends who sewed up the designs and quilted them. You will recognize many of these MN quilters.

*Quilts* by Karen K. Stone. Not a presumptuous title, this wonderful book provides 4 pages of paper piecing patterns at the end for the incredible Cinco de Mayo quilt that Karen showed us in February. I think this is Karen’s only book but it is a wowzer! Sprinkled with lots of advice throughout. Of course, the one I like is on page 11, “Buy yards if you are passionate about a fabric. Don’t always just buy fat quarters.” The pictures are many and provide close-ups to remind of the details she puts into these wonderful pieces. She also gives very detailed directions of how to use the 11 patterns she provides in the book. This is a book I want to own, but then how will I buy lots of fabulous fabric if I buy every book I want to own?

*One-Block Wonders Cubed!* by Maxine Rosenthat & Joy Pelzmann. Another of our own, Maxine has made the one-block wonders her trademark and the quilts a joy to make. There are 10 projects shown in the book but she provides the techniques and inspiration for you to create your own “wonders”. In case you have never picked up or studied her original books, there is a concise lesson on how to construct a one-block wonder quilt on page 75-79, using her kaleidoscope methods. And I love how Maxine shows her frugal side with the suggestions for using up fabric scraps from the One-block wonders, It allows us to buy more fabric, as we know we will use up every bit!

*Liberated Quiltmaking II* by Gwen Marston. Gwen shares that she got the inspiration for her “liberated” quilt construction by looking at old quilts. The ones that had no clear pattern especially intrigued her and had little “surprises” in them caused by an abrupt change of size or color or design. Using these ideas for design, she started making her own original quilts without patterns. She notes that her designs are so original that she cannot even replicate them herself sometimes. She does have two rules with liberated quilting, really three if she admits it: 1) keep your rotary blade sharp; 2) if something is too big, cut it off; 3) if something is too small, add on.

Here are the other books, which you can check out for yourself and if you feel inspired write a review for the library.

*Reverse Appliqué with no Brakes*, Jan Mullen
*Quick Diamonds and Beyond*, Jane Krenze
*More Fabulous Flowers*, Sharon K. Baker
*More Favorite Traditional Quilts Made Easy*, Jo Parrott
*Fabric +Paint +Threads =Fabulous*, Pat Durbin
*Another Season of Beautiful Blooms*, Susan Taylor Propst
*Stellar Quilts*, Judy Martin
*Out of the Box*, Mary Lou Weidman

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**New Library Books for Spring**

by Martha Eaves, MQ Library Liaison

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**TEXTILE CENTER NEWS**

Registration is open for the ARTWEAR SYMPOSIUM June 2-8. Workshops, seminars, runway show, and more! Get more information at www.textilecentermn.org/symposium2010.asp

Please note: although registration materials are online, you cannot register online. Call the Textile Center at 612-436-0464 or print your form and mail or fax to 612-436-0466.

Textile Center’s Summer Camps for Kids are now on up on Textile Center website. They have 33 different camps for ages 6-16. Kids can learn how to sew or knit. Spend days in the dye lab. Make cuddly creatures or design their own fashions. Weave, spin, dye, sew, felt, knit, embroider, paint, braid, bead and design their own summer fun! Camps are held June 21 - August 20. See www.textilecentermn.org/summercamp.asp for more information.

Textile Center shop and gallery hours are: M-Th, 10-7 pm; F-S, 10-5 pm; closed Sundays.

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**Classified Ad**

**Legacy 1 (modified industrial Bernina 217) for sale.** Sit-down machine quilting with 20” throat space (as used by Caryl Bryer Fallert). Includes zigzag upgrade, presser foot knee lift, halogen lighting, deluxe 24”x60” sewing table, needle down option and accessories. Paid $8000, will sell for $3500. 218-236-0857.
**Welcome to the following who joined Minnesota Quilters during March 2010.**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth DeVoe, Saint Paul</td>
<td>Shelia Barrington, SD</td>
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<td>Victoria Gibbons, Richfield</td>
<td>Ann Begich, Inver Grove Heights</td>
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<td>Gloria Gunderson, Olivia</td>
<td>Jorja Burke, Presque Isle, WI</td>
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<td>Christine Holmquist, Richfield</td>
<td>Carol Current, Minneapolis</td>
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<td>Anne Krafthefer, Duluth</td>
<td>Edith Ann Dalleska, St. Paul</td>
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<td>Shirley Lekander, Kimball</td>
<td>Loris Goth, Rogers</td>
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<td>Judy Lofgren, Apple Valley</td>
<td>Millie Hartleben, Eagan</td>
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<td>Bonnie Overcott, Minneapolis</td>
<td>Julia Accola, Rochester</td>
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<td>Michele Peine, St Paul</td>
<td>Margaret Baker, Rochester</td>
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<td>Celine Perkins, Bloomington</td>
<td>Margaret (Peg) Birse, Grand Marais</td>
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<td>Linda Pribyl, Roseville</td>
<td>Jill Boettcher, Rochester</td>
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<td>Rosemarie Ramirez, Woodbury</td>
<td>Linda Boothe, St. Paul</td>
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<td>Mary Reed, Eagan</td>
<td>Bobby Brose, Cable, WI</td>
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<td>Meredith Schurr, St Anthony</td>
<td>Treadle Yard Goods Daly, St. Paul</td>
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<td>David Shattuck, St Paul</td>
<td>Mary Deeney, Minnetonka</td>
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<td>Pamela Streed, Minneapolis</td>
<td>Lynette Disrud, Eden Prairie</td>
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<td>Marlys Taflin, Champlain</td>
<td>Patty Dunn, Plymouth</td>
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<td>Barbara Walster, Roseville</td>
<td>Jean Elefson, River Falls, WI</td>
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<td>Rose Werner, Dundas</td>
<td>Junelle Erdmanczyk, Vadnais Heights</td>
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<td>Marcia Wilkins, Minneapolis</td>
<td>Patricia Nelson, Minneapolis</td>
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<td>Joan Yeatman, La Crosse, WI</td>
<td>Dee O’Brien, Inver Grove Heights</td>
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<td>Sharon Meinz, Brooklyn Park</td>
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<td>Betty Merz, St Louis Park</td>
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**Bulletin Board**

**30s for 30 QUILT BLOCK CHALLENGE** The American Quilt Study Group (AQSOG), a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the history of quilts and quiltmaking, is turning 30! We invite you to join the celebration by participating in a nationwide block challenge called “30s for 30.” For every 30 blocks received, one person’s name will be drawn to win those blocks. To learn more about AQSOG and our annual Seminar, please visit website at www.americanquiltstudygroup.org. Deadline for submitting blocks is Oct. 1, 2010. Questions? Contact Paula at the address above or email: paulapahl@q.com; phone: 303-204-2821.

**Trunk show with Claudia Clark Myers, Saturday, May 1** Sponsored by The Library Friends of Cook County in Grand Marais. 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall at St. John’s Catholic Church, 10 E. 5th St., Grand Marais. Claudia’s new book *A PASSION FOR PIECING* is available for purchase (cash or checks only). No charge for the show, but advance reservations are requested by e-mailing booklovers@boreal.org. In the subject line, put CCM reservations and indicate your name and the number of people in your party in the body of the e-mail. Please cancel via e-mail if unable to attend, as space is limited.

**Hands All Around Quilters of Braham Annual Quilt Show, Braham, August 6.** Sponsored by The Library Friends of Cook County in Grand Marais. 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall at St. John’s Catholic Church, 10 E. 5th St., Grand Marais. Claudia’s new book *A PASSION FOR PIECING* is available for purchase (cash or checks only). No charge for the show, but advance reservations are requested by e-mailing booklovers@boreal.org. In the subject line, put CCM reservations and indicate your name and the number of people in your party in the body of the e-mail. Please cancel via e-mail if unable to attend, as space is limited.

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**Quilting on the Waterfront**

**QTW 2010: October 28-29-30**

The Inn on Lake Superior - Canal Park, Duluth

Details at www.quiltingonthewaterfront.com

218-625-1032 or 218-341-0489
Idle Pastime: In Off Hours, Truckers Pick Up Stitching
With Less to Haul, Drivers Try New Hobbies; Quilting in the Cab
By JENNIFER LEVITZ

WALCOTT, Iowa—Semi driver Dave White happily sequestered himself in his rig at a truck stop on a rural stretch of Interstate 80, waiting to pick up his next haul: 45,000 pounds of Spam. He used to loathe the downtime in his job. Then, he bought a sewing machine.

For long-haul trucker Dave White, there's more to life on the road than finding a good rest stop. There'squilting. WSJ's Jennifer Levitz reports.

Since last year, when the economy left drivers with fewer hauls, Mr. White, a 6-foot-2, 240-pound ex-Air Force mechanic with a bushy mustache, has hunkered down inside his truck in his many off hours, making quilts from patterns with names like "Meet Me In Paris." When he’s not sewing, he’s daydreaming about it, he said as he ran a square of yellow cotton with little violets through his machine. "Oh, there’s many a time you’re just going down the road at O-dark-thirty in the morning and you just start thinking about a particular pattern."

Some truckers are finding themselves with more spare time on the road. Loads of goods delivered by truckers fell 15% in 2009, to 170 million loads, the largest drop in modern history, said Bob Costello, chief economist for the American Trucking Associations. That came on top of a slow downswing in hauls because of what the industry laments as "miniaturization" of goods: It takes less space to move lettuce between California and the Midwest, learned to knit last year after load-volumes slowed. Creating something tangible beats sitting around the truck stop "talking about who has a bigger radio," he said. He's finished a scarf and socks, and is working on a sweater for his wife.

"The fact that you can take strands of thread and basically make something out of it, that's awesome I think," he said. "It's pretty cool stuff, man."

Still, trucking can be a macho world that doesn't feel conducive to knitting or sewing. Some 95% of truckers are men, said the ATA. At the Iowa-80 Truck Stop, whose signs bill it as the "World's Largest Truckstop," a top request at the theater is for "Smokey and the Bandit" and the on-site dentist, Thomas Roemer, often sees drivers only after they've tried to yank their teeth out themselves. Crafting with fabric and yarn is "nothing I would do—my mom does that," said Mark Sanchez, 47, a long-haul trucker.

Mr. White, the quilter, who is 53, came to his new passion last summer after feeling he was wasting time "waiting on freight." He drove 2,600 miles a week on average in 2009, versus 3,200 in 2008, even though he spent the same amount of time—about three weeks at a stretch—on the road.

He struggled to find a hobby, having burned out on reading. He tried carting along a remote-controlled helicopter, but it kept falling on him from a shelf in the truck. His wife, Dee, an accountant at their home in Colorado Springs, Colo., is a quilter and suggested he try it. By August, they had outfitted his truck's sleeper cabin with a $179 sewing machine, supplies, and a starter's pattern. "Boy, let me tell you, I created a monster," she said.

Since then, Mr. White has made seven quilt tops, which are finished with a filling and backing between trips. He spends three hours a day on his hobby, sitting on his bed, with his - continued on next page
sewing machine next to his mini-fridge. Flowered "project boxes" sit next to neat stacks of blue jeans and baseball caps. Quilting, he said, "gives you a little bit of ownership. You've actually accomplished something with your time off."

He pulled over once to visit the National Quilt Museum in Paducah, Ky., and if time allows, visits fabric stores in towns he rolls through.

In his truck, he showed a quilt with illustrations of fruit, and emphasized the importance of strategically placing quilt blocks so that "you don't get three lemons in a row or two plums in a row."

His blue eyes widened behind his glasses as he moved to the topic of thread. "There is a variegated thread that goes purple to white then back to purple," he said. "Oh! Just beautiful."

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Notes from the Secretary

Please help Minnesota Quilters stay in the know about our membership. In the case of the passing of any of our members, we would like to send our condolences to family and to acknowledge our loss. Additionally, we’d like to know when our members have reasons to celebrate, especially for quilt-related reasons. Please send any news to Karen O’Brien at secretary@mnquilt.org or call her at 651-489-2285.

President’s Quilt Block

MQ has a tradition of presenting our president with “thank you” blocks for their year in term. Char has defined her block: 6”, 9” or 12” cat blocks.

Past president, Mary Brandt, likes stars made with batiks, with the star being dark and then a light background. The size can vary, 6”, 9” or 12”.

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