MARCH MEETINGS

Nancy Bergstrom

Nancy is from Little Canada, Minnesota. She has been quilting for more than 20 years. She is currently the Lecture Series Chair for the Minnesota Quilters Board. She works part-time at the Colorful Quilts and Textiles in Roseville. During the past 7 years she has had the pleasure of two trips to Luxembourg (including Belgum, Germany; France, and the Netherlands) and has spent about 15 weeks in England. She is a member of Minnesota Quilters, Pieces and Patience Quilt Guild (with one other member - Bente Andersen Sundlo of Norway), Ladies of the Lake Quilt Society in Mahtomedi, Minnesota Contemporary Quilters, Luxembourg Quilters, and the Quilters Guild, England.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

Paulette will be presenting her lecture, Borders By Design; with a slide presentation and design ideas for working on the edge and framing every quilt. If you have ever had the questions, “What border should I use on this quilt?” or are tired of just a plain small border to contain and larger border to frame your beautiful blocks, then this lecture will be great for you.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

Paulette will condense her BEAUTIFUL BORDERS workshop and answer our questions like, “How do I make the border fit this quilt?” Bring paper and pencil and learn from this process lecture and the slides she presents. After the lecture, Paulette will have time to look at a few quilt tops that are ready for bordering and share with the whole group her suggestions. If you have one of those quilt tops, please bring it along to the meeting. We will look at as many as time allows.

SHOW UPDATE

Small Quilt Vouchers & Challenge Vouchers can ONLY BE REDEEMED AT THE SHOW. We cannot use them with your registration form. Please plan to redeem them at the show. Thanks for letting us know, Mary. We know that you & Joanne are very, very busy with the class registrations. Also sending your small quilts to Mary...change of address:

Mary Eblo, 298 Stark Road East, Duluth, MN 55818.

Visit the 1997 Minnesota Quilters Conference & Show website:

MINNESOTA QUILT PROJECT

The Minnesota Quilt Project and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts is planning an exhibit containing quilts from around the state that were documented during area Quilt Discovery days. The exhibit is currently planned for late summer 1997.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the selected quilts for display. This involves sewing a canvas strip to the top of the quilt back and then sewing Velcro strips to the canvas. This must be done to museum quality. The Minneapolis Institute of Arts will be offering a workshop to train interested volunteers on Saturday, March 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you are interested in helping and wish to attend the workshop, please contact David Shattuck at (612) 644-1897.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
MARCH
MARCH 6 Evening Meeting Machinist Hall, 7:00 p.m.
MARCH 7 Daytime Meeting Machinist Hall, 9:30 a.m.
MARCH 24 Board of Directors Mtg.
APRIL
APRIL 3 Evening Meeting Machinist Hall, 7:00 p.m.
APRIL 4 Daytime Meeting Machinist Hall, 9:30 a.m.
APRIL 21 Board of Directors Mtg.
MAY
MAY 1 Evening Meeting Machinist Hall, 7:00 p.m.
MAY 2 Daytime Meeting Machinist Hall, 9:30 a.m.
JUNE
JUNE 12-14 Duluth, Minnesota 1997 MQ Annual Show & Conference-Join Us!

LIBRARY LINES
Volunteers are always appreciated at both the evening & daytime meetings. Remember, the hours volunteered at the MQ Library count towards the Volunteer Pin.

Three books and four magazines may be checked out until the next meeting at Machinists Hall. They cannot be renewed. If you are unable to return them at the next meeting, please mail them Fourth Class Book Rate to Minnesota Quilters, 1399 Eustis Street, St. Paul, MN 55108. Fines for overdue material is $1.00 per item, per month. Please return items promptly.

This is YOUR library. If there is a book you want, please call me at 612/338-4360. A machine is waiting for your call.

MQ MEMBERS IN THE NEWS...
Quilting Today, page 54 features Patricia Cox’s quilt, “Bouquet of Flowers”.

Also featured in this issue is a quilt made by Marsha McCloskey, “Quality Plus”. Marsha will be an instructor at the MQ 1997 Quilts on the Waterfront Show and Conference in Duluth, MN.

MQ member Sara Newberg King, a textile artist has a shop in Paducah, KY. She has invited everyone to stop by, KING’S QUILTING STUDIO, 119 North 4th Street, Paducah, KY 42001.

ARE YOU GOING TO THE 13TH ANNUAL AQ’S QUILT SHOW & CONTEST IN PADUCAH, KENTUCKY; APRIL 24-27, 1997?

Would you consider jotting down some notes while you’re there? Members who can not attend would like to get an impression of the show,quilts and winners. Maybe a view of what the rest of us can prepare for in the future! Send in a report for the newsletter and earn some time toward your volunteer pin! Contact the editor.

MINNESOTA QUILTERS NEWS
...is the monthly newsletter of the Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a non-profit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere; and dedicated to enhancing the knowledge and enjoyment of quilting.

Membership Dues are $20.00 per year (U.S. funds only) and includes the following: monthly meetings tailored to suit the needs of beginners, advanced and professional quilters; the newsletter and workshop opportunities. Minnesota Quilters pins are available for sale.

New Membership/Renewals should be sent to Jane Shattuck, 1526 Sheldon St., St. Paul, MN 55108. Watch for the expiration notice on your label. It will say: PLEASE RENEW. The number on the label indicates the month and year of expiration. Example: 0197 means that the membership ends January 1997. Send changes of address and phone number to: Mary Drabik, 4258 Highland, Shoreview, MN 55126.

Advertising Rates: Business card size ad is $15 per month. Classified ad is $4 for 3 lines. If ads must be composed by editor, there will be an additional $10 charge. Make checks payable to Minnesota Quilters, Inc. PLEASE NOTE: No ads will be included in the newsletter unless they are accompanied by full payment with the order and handwritten, typed or computer output copy.

Business Card, 3" wide x 2.5" high, $15.00 per month, Classified ad, $5.00 for 3 lines/mo.

Please note that if you have paid for advertising past the March 1, 1997 deadline (for April issue) you will be responsible for the increase in the advertising rates.

Deadline for Ads: All ads must be received by the newsletter editor, Joan Fleischhacker, P.O. Box 161, Hutchinson, Minnesota 55350, by date posted below.

All Articles, Advertising, News, etc. are due the 1st of the month prior to publication. NOTE: The next issue of MQ News will be the APRIL 1997 issue, APRIL 1997 ISSUE DEADLINE OF MQ News is March 1, 1997.

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BLOCK OF THE MONTH
FEBRUARY winner of the BLOCK OF THE MONTH was...

GLENDA FULKERSON
won 36 blocks of Quaker Crossing!

Please join us in the block of the month drawing. See page 5 for the next project & how to become a winner!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Historian: Bonnie Weinard (612) 222-7846, 448 Bidwell St., #3, St. Paul 55107

1997 Show Co-Chairperson
Claudia Myers (218) 525-7764, 5715 Jean Duluth Rd, Duluth 55803

Co-Chairperson-Shirley Kirsch (218) 724-3387, 2081 E. 6th Street, Duluth, 55812

1998 Show Chairperson, Linda Wines (612) 553-9586, 6632 Quintero Lane N., Maple Grove 55311, Wines@xanadu.com

1999 Show Chairperson: Carolyn Peters (612) 735-0053, 1640 Quail Ridge Cir., Woodbury, 55125, Quili@milcomm.com
NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear MQ Members,

January and February have proven to be very busy, but not with quilting. The chore and challenge of getting snow and ice off the roof, then off the deck, then off the drive and sidewalk has been quite an experience.

Now my son thinks it is time to redecorate his room and get rid of the bears and balloons border, he's almost 11 you know. I tell him he's not allowed to grow up. Painting will be another new experience.

On another note...

Sandi Irish and I met with the wives of the Minnesota Twins and everything is coming along with the raffle quilts. We hope to present the quilts to the Twins Organization and the Ronald McDonald House at our March meetings. Unfortunately, the wives of the Twins will be in Florida at Spring Training. More information will be forth coming about the raffle itself.

Now, I must apologize to anyone who has called me and I have not returned their call. The messages I get from my husband, Al, go like this: "Someone from quilting called you." I ask, "Who?" He says, "I don’t know, they said their name but I didn't write it down. She sounded younger." I say, "Any other clues?" He might say "It’s about a meeting." Then I know exactly who it is - NOT! Or he might say, "Name the people on the board of directors...nope, none of them." The only one I'm ever sure of is when he says "That guy that calls you all the time called." I know that's Norm Steere. Now, Norm does NOT call me that often, but he is the only guy that calls. After 13 years of marriage, my husband does notice when a guy calls me. Anyhow, you have to say; "Al, write this down...", then leave your name. Of course we are taking the chance that he doesn’t lose the note. Bonnie E. calls this "Husband Disease", and Al is affected.

I must get busy on four baby quilts and a mystery quilt. The ones for my nephew and my brother I hope to have in the show. Then I will clear everything to work on my (in my mind) prize winning challenge and my son's room, of course. (More sewing fun to look forward to.)

Sewing...ly,

... Barb

MINNESOTA QUILT DAY...

By: Susan L. Edseth, Forest Lake, Minnesota

Last year I read the announcement in Minnesota Quilters News for the March celebration of National Quilt Day. I thought, great, here is yet one more pressure, another deadline, one more day to feel guilt about. In this busy, rushed life, I have endured much self-inflicted guilt for missing the opportunity to send a birthday, anniversary, or even holiday greeting card.

Certainly, National Quilt Day meant that I must at least get something out to those dearest souls that have fostered my love of quilts and quilting. If only I could find time to buy a card, to write a note.

One day last February, I stumbled upon a card sale. The card that caught my eye was that of a blanket of dramatic colors, draped around the shoulders of two people embracing. It came to me quite suddenly that here was my opportunity to make up for those missed greetings! I snatched up a couple of boxes of these cards and hurried home to order a couple dozen Minnesota Quilters Raffle Tickets. The long, cold days of winter seemed to fade away as each day I popped a few more cards into the mail. The extra dollar I spent to enclose a raffle ticket, gave every recipient something to look forward to, as well as a hopeful focus for writing back to me.

During the past year, I missed a few more birthdays and anniversaries. At Christmas I didn’t send holiday cards. I also didn’t suffer even one pang of guilt. National Quilt Day 1997 is coming. My order for a couple of dozen raffle tickets is going into the mail today. As for cards, this year, my four-year-old son, Benjamin, will provide not only the anecdotes my family and friends will read about, but I’m also saving all of his abandoned scribbles. They will be recycled into National Quilt Day cards!

HAPPY NATIONAL QUILT DAY!
1996 HOLIDAY CHALLENGE WINNER

The daytime meeting in December 1996 had a Holiday Challenge packet. The winner of the Challenge was:

CHERYL FORSYTHE, PLYMOUTH, MN!

Cheryl used yo-yo’s in the center of her pansy squares with a little under tuck which she learned from Irma Gail Hatcher, who taught a class for MQ in the Fall of 1996.

Thank you Cheryl for sending your photo and information. What a treat! Your project is really beautiful!

A BOOK REVIEW
February - Judi Smith®

During the absolutely wonderful Saturday in October that we took our bike trip down to Cannon Falls, we also stopped in at Main Street Books, run by Minnesota Quilter member, Denise Anderson and her husband. While looking through her selection of quilting books, I found one that really intrigued me. It is “Treasures in the Trunk-Quilts of the Oregon Trail”, by Mary Bywater Cross, published by Rutledge Hill Press. The cover of the book proclaims it about “memories, dreams, and accomplishments of the pioneer women who traveled the Oregon Trail.”

There are four main parts to the book. Three of them chronicle different periods of time that women and their families were coming across the Oregon Trail. The fourth deals with those who waited, either for a husband or a family member who had already gone out to Oregon. The introduction and postlude show the context of that time in history. But the best stories are told in the appendix. This is where women truly tell the tales of what their lives were like.

This book does not have patterns for any of the quilts, but the majority of them are easily draftable. What it does have are stories. Each chapter starts with the facts and figures; what the trail was like, what categories the quilts that were made fall into, who were the quilt makers, and what kind of quilting they did before they went, while on the trail and after they got there. Prices are given for outfitting a family to cross the Oregon Trail and what type of provisions they should take to make their way across the trail and to survive once they got there.

As in today’s world, “A woman doing a male job was doing what was necessary. A man assuming a woman’s responsibilities was doing her a favor.” The story for the missing flower from Elizabeth Currie Foster’s handbag is heart wrenching. The story of the darning needle owned by Nancy Gates Ensley Drain is a story of triumph in this new wilderness.

This is a wonderful book about the history of quilts during a specific time and about a specific place. It is beautifully written, the photographs of the quilt makers make them seem like members of your own family, and the stories will make you laugh and cry at the same time.
MARCH BLOCK OF THE MONTH - "TEA LEAF"

8" BLOCK (8-1/2" unfinished)

Use 100% Cotton Fabric
JOANNE HOLZKNECHT
2618 65th Ave North - Brooklyn Center, Minnesota 55430

Submitted by Joanne Holzknecht, Brooklyn Center, MN
Drawing for the "New Water Wheel" block (February 1997 issue) will be held at the March daytime meeting.
- Add seam allowance to templates.
- Occasionally, printing distorts pattern pieces
- Please check for accuracy before marking!
- Print Name/Address-Attach to backside of block
- To participate, make one or more blocks. Your name will be entered in the monthly drawing.
- You need not be present to win.
- If you are unable to attend the meeting, please mail blocks before meeting date to Joanne.

DULUTH SHOW & CONFERENCE, QUILTS ON THE WATERFRONT SPONSORS
We wish to gratefully acknowledge the participation of the following Judged Category sponsors. Please thank them for their participation when you stop by their booths at the show in June. They will be located in an area identified as "Sponsors Row."

- American Professional Quilting Systems
  8035 University Blvd, Suite F
  Des Moines, Iowa 50325
  Tele: 1-800-426-7233

- Cherrywood Fabrics, Inc.
P.O. Box 486
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401-0486
Tele: 218-829-0967

- Country Keepsakes
RD #1, P.O. Box 198G
Rome, Pennsylvania 18837

- Gruber's Market
#1 Main Street Genola
Pierz, Minnesota 56346
Tele: 320-468-6435

- Hobbs Bonded Fibers
P.O. Box 2521
Waco, Texas 76702
Tele: 817-741-0040

- Northwest Fabrics and Crafts, Inc.
  5115 Burning Tree Road
  Duluth, Minnesota 55811
  Tele: 218-722-2587

- P & B Textiles
Burlingame, California

- PFAFF American Sales Corp.
610 Winters Avenue
Paramus, New Jersey 07653
Tele: 1-800-99-PFAFF

- 2 Kidz Quilting
P.O. Box 384
Spicer, Minnesota 56288
Tele: 320-796-6436

- Viking Husqvarna Sewing Machines

We also wish to thank these fine businesses for their support in making the 1997 Minnesota Quilters Show and Convention a success.

- First Bank of Duluth
  130 West Superior Street
  Duluth, Minnesota 55802
  Tele: 218-722-3301

- Timber Lodge Steakhouse, Inc.
  325 South Lake Avenue
  Duluth, Minnesota
  Tele: 218-722-2624

- Arrowhead Fabric Outlet
  102 E. Central Entrance
  Duluth, Minnesota 55811
  Tele: 218-727-3121

- Kelly J's New Home
  Sewing Center
  1626 London Rd.
  Duluth, Minnesota 55804
  Tele: 218-724-8781

- Viking Village Sewing Center
  Village Mall
  Duluth, Minnesota
  Tele: 218-723-4035

- New Home Janome
- Bernina
- Thimbleberries

A special THANK YOU to all businesses that support Minnesota Quilter's. Without the support of the business community our quilting experiences would not be as wonderful as they are.
"QUILTS ON THE WATERFRONT"
DULUTH - JUNE 12, 13 & 14, 1997

FROM CLAUDIA, SHIRLEY, AND THE 1997 SHOW COMMITTEE

Well, here we are, in the first week of February, and you have all overwhelmed us with your response to the Quilts on the Waterfront Show and Conference. Now, it’s up to us to get you all the right place, at the right time, with as few glitches as possible. We are using a great new registration computer program that was written for Minnesota Quilters by Kyle Anderson, who writes the programs for the Library at the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

David Shattuck and Carolyn Peters came up to view it doing its’ thing, with Joanne Line at the helm. They all seem to agree that it will help immensely to have a program that can be used every year, so it doesn’t have to be re-invented for each show. Let’s hope it’s not related to the new systems that the IRS invested in, last year!

I hope you all have your hotel rooms for the show, or are planning on getting them soon. Three of our hotels are sold out, and the rest of our room blocks are at 2/3 full. We are hearing from some enterprising folks, though. One woman called to inform us that she had called the Buena Vista Motel, up on top of the hill, in Duluth, and they said they didn’t have a room block, but they would be glad to give a special price to anyone who says they are coming for the Quilt show. Must be a quilter in there somewhere. Another woman said she and her friends are staying at a bed and breakfast. What a great idea! Duluth has several beautifully restored Victorian home B&B’s. Some even qualify as mansions. You can get information about these and other accommodations at the Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-438-5884 (1-800-4-Duluth). Their web site address is: http://www.uslink.net/MN/Duluth

The Buena Vista can be reached at 1-800-569-8124.

An interesting happening — I hand-delivered a registration brochure to a woman whose address turned out to be on my way into town. She said she was delighted to hear about our show, that she, herself was not a quilter, but her mother-in-law would be visiting them that week from Scotland and she is a quilter. She is, in fact, one of the ten “qualified” quilt teachers in Scotland!

For those of you who don’t know it already, my side-kick and partner, Shirley Kirsch, will have had a second hip replacement, by the time this newsletter comes out. We tell her that she moves so fast, she’s wearing out her pieces and parts. She decided to have it done now, so she will be up and (literally) running by the time the show comes around.

We have another sponsor this month. FOND-DU-LAC QUILTING will sponsor one of the three $75.00 gift certificates for the MQ Jacket Quilting Challenge. Thank you Fond-du-Lac Quilting!

We still need two more sponsors for that event. If any of you reading this are shop owners and would be interested in giving a $75.00 gift certificate to be redeemed at your vendor booth during the show, please contact: Karla Spinks at (414) 294-6500. You’ll get a free ticket to the Fashion Show and lots & lots of Good Will!

Our video of the class slides will have traveled to guilds in South Dakota, Thief River Falls, Bloomer, Wisconsin and ten other places by the end of February. There is still time for your guild to make a reservation, by calling Jan Gibson at (218) 724-0728.

Be sure to get your small quilts in at the March Meeting, if you want to be included in the drawing, March 15th for a $25.00 gift certificate to KEEPSAKE QUILTING CATALOG. TEAM PETERSON will draw again, April 15th and May 15th, so if you get in early enough, you can be eligible for all three drawings!

It’s going to be a great show...we’re SO glad you’re coming!

PUBLICITY & SPONSORS

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR...

Beth Pierson is a relative newcomer to Duluth, having moved there from Chicago in November of 1995. Shortly after arriving in Duluth, she had the good fortune to meet Shirley Kirsch who quickly got her involved in many quilting activities including the Co-Chairmanship of the Publicity and Sponsors Committee for the 1997 Quilts on the Waterfront Show and Conference.

In addition to enjoying quilting, Beth has spent the past ten years working professionally as a stage manager and director for opera companies all over the country, most recently with the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Since moving to Duluth she has cut back on her theater activities somewhat, but recently had a wonderful time directing the musical “Quilters” for the Duluth Playhouse. Beth and her husband Jeff are expecting their first child in July.

Welcome to MQ, Beth and thank you for sharing your time and talent for the 1997 Show in Duluth. We’re very lucky we have you and the rest of the committee chairs on our MQ team!

New Hotels in Duluth

Two new hotels to enjoy when your in Duluth for the MQ show.

BARKER’S ISLAND INN
300 Marina Drive
Superior, WI 54880
715/392-7152
Rates: Poolside -$89.50, Cityside-$79.50

DAYS INN SUPERIOR
110 Harbor View Parkway
Superior, WI 54880
Rates: Flat rate -$63.00

Three hotels are full as of February.
Canal Park Inn
Comfort Suites
Inn on Lake Superior
JUDGED EXHIBIT CO-CHAIRS...

Laura Nordem & Ellie Apter

Ellie and I are looking forward to receiving a lot of entries and will take excellent care of your quilts. We know we will have a successful Judged Exhibit and we're very excited about each entry that arrives.

This is my sixth year living in Duluth and my fifth year as a quilter. I can thank, and my husband and kids can blame; my good friend, neighbor and co-chair, Ellie Apter, for introducing me to the addictive world of quilt making. Although I had sewn just about everything else, the world of quilt making was a scary unknown. Ellie suggested I give quilting a try and invited me to join a neighborhood quilt group. That group and the opportunity to attend the YMCA Quilt Camp made a wonderful impression on me, and my life hasn’t been the same since.

Ellie and I are both married, we each have two children, and we are both very busy with three children in elementary and one in middle school!

Thank you to Ellie for giving me that push and thank you to all the wonderful quilters in Duluth who have taught me so much and have become such good friends.

We understand how much time, love and yourself that you put into your quilt; we will handle them with loving care. You make the exhibit. We encourage you to submit your entry, take a risk, as that famous T.V. spokesman says, "...if you don’t enter, you can’t win!"

BULLETIN BOARD NOTES...

March 4 – 21, 1997, Eagan High School’s Second Annual Quilt Show, “A Celebration of Quilts”. Celebrate Women’s History Month by attending Eagan High School’s quilt show, over 40 quilts and quilted items will be on display. Opening reception on March 4, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and a free lecture on Thursday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m. by Susan Stein on “A Yard and a Bundle.” Using dyed fabrics with traditional patterns.” Hours: M-F 9:00-4:00 p.m., closed weekends. Questions? Contact Laura Nagel at 612-683-6933.

February 2 — March 30, 1997; Who’d A Thought It, Improvisation in African American Quiltmaking, at the Goldstein Gallery, University of Minnesota, McNeile Hall, 2nd Floor, Buford Street, St. Paul, MN. M-F 10-4PM, TH 10-8PM, Sat. & Sun. 1:30-4:30PM. Admission to exhibit and related events is free. The quilt artistry of African Americans from across the United States is presented in this highly acclaimed traveling exhibition, organized by the San Francisco Craft and Folk Art Museum features 27 quilts, notable for their unexpected color combinations and patterns. Improvisational quilts are compared to other African American art forms, such as jazz, and connections to African textile arts are noted. Supporters of this exhibition include Minnesota Quilters, Colorful Quilts & Textiles, Wayzata Quilting Emporium, Twin City Home and Community section of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the University’s College of Human Ecology and Department of Design, Housing and Apparel, and the Friends of the Goldstein Gallery.

April 25 — 27, 1997; The Thunder Bay Quilters’ Guild presents, “SUPERIOR QUILTS - 1997”, Presentations will feature traditional, contemporary and antique quilts, wall hangings and clothing. Special displays will include quilt challenges, round robins, donation quilts, Christmas items and children/baby displays. Demonstrations will be ongoing throughout the show highlighting numerous quilting techniques. Visitors to the show will be encouraged to vote for a Viewers Choice Award. Since the Guild’s inception in 1981 several Thunder Bay Guild members have attained impressive reputations as artists and as teachers on local, national and international levels. The show will be featuring quilts from all the membership, from those new, to the craft to the professional, an array of colour to be enjoyed by all. Location: The Thunder Bay Historical Museum, 425 Donald Street East, Thunder Bay. Admission: $2.00. For more information SASE: Deloraene Papich, 710 Linwood Crescent, Thunder Bay, ON Canada P7E 2R8.


September 13 & 14, 1997, AUTUMNFEST QUILT SHOW AND CLASSES, Lac Court Oreilles Casino Lodge & Convention Center, Hayward, Wisc. For more information send a LSASE to: Ann Degen, Rt. #5, Box 5308D, Hayward, WI 54843.

October 3 & 4, 1997, Renville, MN QUILTER’S ALONG THE YELLOWSTONE TRAIL presents their semi-annual quilt show, “Harvest of Quilts” at the Renville Community Center, Main Street, Renville, MN. Hours: Friday 10-5 p.m.; Saturday 10-4 p.m. Vendors of quilted related items, door prizes, refreshments, special presentation, “Walk In The Park” Quilt. SASE: Dorothy H. Johnson, Route #1, Box 112, Hector, Minnesota 55342-9104

Be sure to send in your quilting group show or exhibit information to the editor. Send is as soon as you find out your event dates, the deadline for this newsletter is the first of the month (postdated), it will be printed in the newsletter and sent to all members by the end of that month. Your quilt show or exhibit DOES NOT have to be MQ sponsored. Only requirement is that it be quilt related.
NOTES...

Yes, many of you found those nasty little spelling errors that I put into the newsletter for you. I'll bet everyone caught at least 2! Well, Ida said that I needed some help! Your newsletter is spun, twirled, typed, spun some more, spell checked (when I remember) and now it will also get emailed to Seattle, Washington to be proofed by a member of MQ and APQ! Our very own MQ member, Anne Ryan. This gracious lady will be another eye looking out for you, as Ida & Ima my other "proofers" are on vacation much to often! Thank you, Anne!

Are you new to Minnesota or Minnesota Quilters? WELCOME! Welcome to the wonderful world of quilts. A great place to find a quilt event is right here within Minnesota Quilter's and also your community education publication. These are normally printed quarterly by your community. If you don't see any quilt related classes or trips, call your community education director in your community and the surrounding area, they may have information for you.

Don't forget about the quilting shops or fabric stores in your area. They may have a schedule that will fit into your plans. And of course our advertisers in this newsletter are a wonderful source of information, fabric and supplies to keep you ready for all your projects.

Let me know if you find a special event or class that you would like other quilters to know about. Information for the newsletter: deadline is the first of the month, MQ members will receive their newsletters about 3 weeks later, or no later than the last week of that month. Minnesota Quilter's & members recognize and encourage quilt education and thequilting interests of all quilters, the event doesn't have to be MQ related, just "Quilt Related".

The show committees are working overtime to get the Annual MQ Show ready, and they are all volunteers! What a great group of folks MQ has in it's membership! If you can volunteer, you will have a chance to get a "behind the scenes", look in the show brochure for information and sign up. We welcome everyone.

Remember, if you make an announcement at the meeting and it's not in the newsletter, then you haven't reached all our members. We have many members in out-state Minnesota, they would enjoy the opportunity to know what is happening in the Metro area, out of state and even events that may be happening just down the road from them, just send a copy of your announcement postdated on the first of the month, and your information will be in the newsletter within that month. Include, a contact person, address, phone?, dates, etc. (Sometimes I get information without a contact, or date, etc. - it's difficult to 'follow up on all of these.)

It's your newsletter. So send your stuff in and remember, we all like photo's, so send them in too!

Strangest place I saw a quilt... this article will resume when the truck & I get thawed out.

What would you like to see in the newsletter? Send me a note. I'd love to hear from you (address-page 2).

... Joan

Judy's

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TRADITION...

Quilts have gone through generations of change. But the most significant is the change from an article of necessity to an artistic expression. Colonists used quilts on beds and hung them over windows to keep out the cold. As time went on, more women started making quilts not only for warmth but also for decoration.

Today, more people try different techniques such as dyeing fabrics, screen printing, and creating new patterns. It's a chance for individuals to express their ideas while creating a piece to be admired by many. Antique quilts are still extremely valuable and should not be underrated, because those very quilts and their patterns have inspired today's artistic expressions.

QUILTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD ARRIVING

ABC Quilt Project-Suzanne Matefy

Over 400 quilts have arrived in Mound, Minnesota. The special person who is heading this project in our area is Suzanne Matefy.

The ABC Quilt Project is currently facing a serious shortage. The handmade quilts are distributed nationwide to children six and under who are HIV positive and/or born affected by prenatal exposure to drugs and alcohol.

"These children get a rough start in life, they at least deserve to have a warm touch of a quilt to call their own," says Suzanne.

"Medical facilities and social service organizations in the state who work with such little children are contacted about our project. Because we respect their confidentiality codes, we just provide the quilts and ask the organizations to give them to qualifying children, so far I've had no problem finding homes for every one of the 400 plus quilts I've received."

About 60 quilts were distributed as part of Christmas baskets to HIV-positive children.

"These handmade quilts and comforters come from as far away as Japan and as close as Chanhassen, needlework folks in Minnesota have been supplying quilts for some time to the project and do beautiful work," said Suzanne. "There are retired ladies in Mankato, for instance, who have been most generous for several years. Unfortunately, I have much more demand than supply."

"Right now I'm completely out of quilts, and there are children all over our area who would benefit from a warm touch of a quilt. I'm hoping area quilters and other needlework people will pitch in and help us," said Suzanne. "We really need their help."

Fabric, batting and cash donations are welcomed, too. Some people who are very willing to sew can't afford to purchase the materials. But they can convert donated fabric and batting into quilts in no time. In fact there is a group up in Angora, Minnesota waiting for fabric and supplies to complete more quilts.

ABC Quilts was started in New Hampshire in 1988 by Ellen Ahlgren, a retired schoolteacher and counselor. When she heard that some HIV-positive children never left the hospital, living their whole lives as "boarders" with nothing to call their own, she decided the least they

- "ABC" CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 -
should have is a quilt.

She began enlisting the help of friends and family to make quilts and comforters. From that small base, ABC Quilts was born. Now, thousands of volunteers in all 50 states have distributed over 255,000 quilts and comforters. (MQ is a sponsor for ABC Quilts, see your MQ 1996-1997 directory, page 4.)

The project parameters have changed a bit,” said Mateffy. “Now the quilts go to any little one living with HIV or AIDS or who has been affected by prenatal exposure to drugs and alcohol. The important thing is to let these children know someone cares. A very practical way to do that is by wrapping a quilt around them.

Mateffy, a long-time quilter herself, became interested in her group six years ago, when she said she made a deal with God. “I said if He’d help me find time to quilt, I’d find a way to do something worthwhile with the quilts,” she said. After donating several pieces of her own work, Suzanne was recruited as the ABC Twin Cities and surrounding Area Coordinator.

Now a mother of two beautiful, healthy children, Suzanne says she feels an even greater commitment to the project, which allows her to make a worthwhile contribution to some little ones who have been given “a very cold start in life.”

A Special Report

(President’s Block)

These blocks are 12-1/2” (unfinished) blocks that are made by members and given to the MQ President as a personal “thank you” for working so hard for the Minnesota Quilter’s organization.

This is your first notice in the newsletter about this. Your presidents (volunteer) gets approximately 3 phone calls per day, that's 21 calls per week, and a total of 1,092 per year (approx.). Now that is just the phone calls! Let’s not even count the board meetings and other meetings that the president attends on our behalf.

I know that Barb Pastman, our 1996-1997 President would just love to get quilt blocks from our membership.

a) Some yellow in them, any amount!
b) Let’s use a white on muslin background

c) 12-1/2” unfinished block size
d) Attach a piece of paper to each block with your name and address.

To Paducah Kentucky...

We’re planning a trip to Paducah Quilt Festival, April 23-27, 1997.

Cost $325.00. Includes transportation, deluxe motor coach, sneak preview of quilt display, stay at beautiful lodge at Moors Resort, and show at Branson.

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MINNESOTA QUILT PROJECT...

History Events for 1997

March 1 - Workshop at Minneapolis Institute of Arts

March 7 - Quilt Discovery Days at Martin Luther King Jr. Center, Mpls.

March 8 - Quilt Discovery Days at Martin Luther King Center, Jr., Mpls.

March 14 - Quilt Discovery Days at Martin Luther King Center, Jr., St. Paul

March 15 - Quilt Discovery Days at Martin Luther King Center, Jr., St. Paul

March 22 - Local History Conference at Minnesota History Center, St. Paul Presentation about Minnesota Quilt Project (MQP) in the Afternoon

July 26 - “Starburst Splendors” Quilt Exhibit opens at Mpls. Institute Arts

October 17 - New “Q is for Quilt” Exhibit opens at MN History Center


Are you interested in helping with some quilt history activities? Please check the items at right and send the form to an address listed at the bottom. (You may photocopy this form.)

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH...

☐ African American Quilt Discovery Days in

☐ St. Paul

☐ Minneapolis

☐ Photography

☐ Technical Analysis of Quilts

☐ Other

☐ Sew heading bands (strips) on quilts for exhibits.

☐ Gather and return quilts for exhibits.

☐ Organize a program for opening of quilt exhibits.

☐ Assist with programs at Minnesota History Center in 1997 & 1998

☐ Research and writing for an MQP publication in 1998 or 1999

☐ Plan a major exhibit of quilts discovered by MQP in 1998 or 1999

☐ Plan an exhibit of feedback fabrics in 1998 or 1999

☐ Prepare grant requests for funding a publication

☐ Prepare grant requests for funding exhibits in 1998 or 1999

☐ Other activities of MQP

NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________

PHONE NUMBER ____________________________

Please send in the volunteer form only to: Sue Rutford, David Shattuck, Jackie Northrop or Jean Loken, 11909 Baypoint Drive, Burnsville, MN 55337. Or call 890-7299. Email: 76472.2051@compuserve.com or Norman Steere, 17060 116th Street North, Stillwater, MN 55082, 430-9591, Fax 439-0993.
"ABC" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9 -

"By donating a simple crib quilt, you can add immeasurably to the life of one of these at-risk children," said Suzanne.

Anyone interested in donating crib quilts, comforters or money to cover material costs for ABC Quilts is encouraged to contact Suzanne Mateffy at 612/472-0820. Or contact Suzanne with a LSASE at: 2930 Highland Court, Mound, MN 55364-8500. Suzanne will send you a copy of.

"What Can I Do?"

Virginia Grenier, a MQ member is also a very active volunteer with the ABC Project. Stay tuned for another article from Suzanne and/or Virginia next month.

NOTE: The "Leader", a Silver Lake, MN newspaper also reported that residents of St. Mary's in Winsted have also been working on ABC Quilts. The paper featured a photo of the six women with several quilts they have made for children-at-risk.