WINNER
First prize winner of the Holiday Challenge was Doris Kraemer’s Snowman Wallhanging. Lots of ornaments and blocks were exchanged at the holiday brunch, too.

We hope your holidays were full of love, family, friends and the warmth that quilts represent in our lives.

NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS
It’s wonderful to make resolutions and it’s even better to keep them. We have a good one that will be easy to keep. Come to the January meeting with your registration book, any questions you may have and your enthusiasm as we start 2005 with a bang! The 2005 Show Committee is planning an exciting “Stars in the Harbor” Show Preview. Each committee will be introduced, give a brief update on what they have in the works and be available to answer your questions.

Tables will be set up around the room with samples of most of the teachers’ class projects, newest book, a quilt or an unfinished block.

Our goal is to give you as clear a picture as possible of the classes that are planned; whether thru the class description in the registration book you received in the mail, the presentation at the meeting or the examples at each table.

TREAT SIGN UP
January is preview month and historically we have lots of attendees at the meetings. Please call and sign up to make a couple of dozen cookies or treats. Our hostess coordinators are Cathy Stiele (phone 952-934-3197) for Thursday Evening and Michelle Hill (phone 763-383-1474) for Saturday Morning.

SHOW AND TELL
In past newsletters, the Show Committee has asked people to sign up and bring samples from the teachers in the Duluth line up. It’s not too late! If you have a finished or not so finished project from any of the teachers planned for the Duluth 2005 Show, BRING IT! We are also looking for your show and tell from classes or vendors at the Quilt Show in Rochester. You have had plenty of time to move the projects along that you picked up last June. And remember, we want to see you “not so finished projects”, too. In the spirit of January and snow in the northland, we are looking for anything with blue or a snowflake. Come and share with your friends. We LOVE to look at quilts.

RED WORK WORKSHOP AND LECTURE FOR FEBRUARY
We are very excited about our plans for February. Annemarie Yohnk will be speaking on Redwork. In addition, she will be offering a morning workshop at the Textile Center on Friday. So mark your calendar and send in the registration form found in this newsletter. The space is limited and you don’t want to miss out.

Ellen Carter
Judy Lewis
Mary Lueders
Program Chairs
Families….
Both the most cherished and maligned social unit in the history of humankind.

I begin writing this on Thanksgiving and you will be reading it just before or just after Christmas. This is the most family centered time of year; one that is filled with hopes, wishes, expectations and dread. Some of you know that I was a child/adolescent/family psychologist. After 35 years I have more than a passing acquaintance with the dynamics of family systems that are so near, so dear, and so painfully frustrating. A long time ago, I learned that we really have 3 families…a family of origin, a family of procreation and a family of choice. These are not mutually exclusive. Our family of origin is mom-dad-brothers-sisters. Extended family includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and all those “adopted” grandparents, aunts and uncles, steps- and half’s. Our family of procreation is spouse and children.

Our family of choice is comprised of friends, family members, and anyone else we choose to include in our family circle. Choice/choose are the operative terms here…we choose to nurture and grow these relationships. The relationships tend to be relaxed and mutually sustaining…we feel energized/fulfilled/comforted by them. I hope that your holidays are filled with those you choose to be with.

OK, now for a bit of MQ business…did you know that this organization has a budget in excess of $300,000?? While most of these monies are show related, that still leaves about $100,000 devoted to all of our other endeavors. “So,” you say, “why, last month did you even mention that our dues might go up if we had to hire out some positions?” Fact…our dues pay for the printing and mailing of the newsletter…that’s it. Then there’s rent, phone, monthly program costs, insurance, $10,000 in educational grants and donations, and accounting/auditing fees. This money comes from the profit we are able to make on the shows. That’s why, if we need to hire an Operations/Administrative Director and/or Show Chairs, we will have to find alternative ways to fund much/some of the above.

As you put your 2005 calendars together, do think about taking an active role in MQ…if every member were willing to donate an hour a week, yikes we’d have 1200 hours a week with which to run this “family of choice.”

Take care, stay warm, and dream of June…
Polly
The 2005 Raffle Quilt “Stars of the Inland Sea” will be shown at the January meetings. Committee members will be available to collect your ticket stubs and money. They will also have additional raffle tickets available. A prize will be awarded to the person selling the most raffle tickets this year. We are pleased to announce the prize will be a $200 certificate for long-arm quilting from Lady of the Lake Quilting Service in Duluth. Joan Schopp Hunn owns Lady of the Lake and has agreed to provide this service. Joan does both overall pattern quilting and beautiful custom work and has customers from all over the country and Alaska.

Fat Quarters
Anyone wishing to participate should bring up to 3 fat quarters of quilt shop quality fabric to the evening or day meeting. Put your name, address and phone number on each (a mailing label works) and we will draw one name at the Saturday morning meeting. That person will get all the fat quarters contributed for that month. You need not be present to win. You can also participate by mailing them to Minnesota Quilters, 3000 University Ave. SE #120 Minneapolis MN 55414-3360, before the morning meeting.

If you are not at the meeting, you will be contacted, and the fat quarters will be held for the next meeting or mailed to you. Again, get involved, have fun, and maybe take home a bundle of fat quarters.

Please contribute fabric you would use yourself, you might actually win! Remember, a Fat Quarter measures 18” x 22” (1/2 yard cut in half along the fold).

January: Jewel Tones  
February: Pink and Purple  
March: Green  
April: Yellow  
May: Light Blue
BLOCK OF THE MONTH
for the
FEBRUARY MEETING
by
Joanne Holznecht

Please use 100% cotton fabrics. PLEASE PREWASH THE FABRIC. Note: When making a Block of the Month, please read the instructions carefully, particularly regarding the fabric choices. The pictures may not always be representative of the fabric selection.

Fabric
Background: White on White print
Heart: Use as many scraps as possible in the SAME color family, your choice, it doesn’t HAVE to be red!

Cut
Background: 2 squares 2½” x 2½”
Prints: 6 squares 2½” x 2½
Background and Prints: 8 triangles from 2½” strips using the EASY ANGLE cutting tool.

Sew together as diagram shows.

Happy Valentines Day!!

Make one or more blocks. Print your name and address on a slip of paper and attach it to the back of each block. Bring as many versions of the block to the February meeting as you want. Your name will be entered in the monthly drawing.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may send your name and block(s) to:

Joanne Holzknecht
2618 65th Ave. N.
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
email: sewsewjo@spacestar.net
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities
Volunteer Position Description

POSITION TITLE: Quilt Maker

DEPARTMENT: School-based Program

POSITION SUMMARY: Create a Big Brothers Big Sisters quilt which will be displayed at a school. Individual squares will be prepared by children and their Big Brothers and Sisters. Great opportunity for an individual or a group.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
- Stitch squares together into an attractive quilt which will be displayed at a school
- Donate and attach fabric for backing
- Prepare quilt for hanging
- If desired, volunteers could also instruct children and their Big Brothers and Sisters on ideas for making their squares

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Quilt-making skills

TIME COMMITMENT:
Quilt squares will be ready by January 30. Deadline for completing quilts would be May 15.

LOCATION:
Work can be done at home. Quilts can be made for schools in Minneapolis, St. Paul and surrounding suburbs.

CONTACT:
Barb Alfrey, Volunteer Systems Manager 651-789-2451 or email at balfrey@bigstwincities.org

The Tubman Family Alliance Volunteer, Community Service Opportunity

The Tubman Family Alliance has a great public service quilting opportunity for a quilting guild or an individual quilter.

Tubman is the largest provider of family violence prevention and intervention services in the United States. Last year they served over 50,000 men, women and children in the Twin Cities. Each year they have the Wing Ding, a festive fundraiser that will take place on April 13, 2005 at The Depot, Marriott in downtown Minneapolis.

They are asking for help in finding a quilting group or individual that would be willing to donate a quilt made from their previous Wing Ding event T-shirts and aprons. Tubman would supply the T-shirts and aprons and the quilting group would supply additional fabric and their time and talent to create the quilt to be sold at the Wing Ding auction this spring. The quilt would need to be completed by March 30, 2005.

The guilt group or individual’s name (could refer to Minnesota Quilters, Inc.) would appear on 6,000 invites and all press releases, so it would be good publicity for our organization or your guild. The expenses related to making the quilt would be a donation, tax-deductible as allowed by law.

If you or your guild are interested, please contact Sheree Peterson at 612-385-5870 or Pam McCurdy Ellington, Tubman Events Manager at 651-739-8784 or pellington@tubmanfamilyalliance.org.

Quilt Database Cleanup

The Minnesota Quilt Project has transferred all the original quilt documentation made on paper to a huge database with over 4000 entries. This data was collected over the last 15 years in various formats and entered in various ways. We now need to standardize the information and to do that we need a LOT of help.

The cleanup will start in January, 2005. It won’t require any knowledge of quilt history, but some knowledge of Microsoft Excel would be helpful. The data that’s been entered needs to be standardized in language and location. Most of the cleanup will consist of making selections from drop down lists.

The database will be divided into 80 sections, Each section will be put on portable media (diskettes or CDs) for you to work on wherever you have access to Microsoft Excel. Either a PC or Mac can be used. We hope to have all the sections back by March, 2005.

If you have access to Microsoft Excel and are interested in helping, please contact Karen Kopitzke at 651-436-1181; e-mail: kakopitzke@earthlink.net.
Lily of the Valley Redwork Class with Annemarie Yohnk

Minnesota Quilters is proud to offer this fun class to celebrate SweetHeart Month

Redwork is a popular form of stitching that originated in Europe. From the late 1800s to the mid 1930s this form of stitching was all the rage in America. Now it is popular again. Annemarie Yohnk will cover the 3-Hs; Hints, History, and How-Tos in this 3-hour class. Come, enjoy and learn this relaxing thread art. The stem stitch, starts, stops, and perfect points are easy tricks learned in this class. We will begin a simple Lily of the Valley project to be completed at home just in time for Spring. No previous embroidery experience required. Pattern included.

Supply List
3/8 yard of muslin or parchment
DMC Floss – color suggestions red (304 or 498) or blue (311, 312, 517, or 798)
Hoop – 4” – 5” (to fit comfortably in your hand)
Pigma pen to match floss color
Crewel Needles #9
Small Embroidery Scissors
Pencil and Paper

Date - February 4th, 2005
Class Time: 9am - Noon
Fee: $28.00
Class will be held at the Textile Center

Lily of the Valley Redwork Class

____________________________________________________________________
Name
____________________________________________________________________
Address          City                         State ZIP
____________________________________________________________________
Day Phone          Eve Phone

Send check and registration form to: M Lueders, c/o Redwork Class, 3134 Highland Ave, Wayzata, MN 55391

Membership News

New membership, renewal and change of address should be sent to:
Gayle Mundstock
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
3000 University Ave SE, #120
Minneapolis MN 55414
membership@mnquilt.org

When renewing or changing address (or name), please include your MQ Membership Number (MQNo). This can be found to the right above your address on your latest newsletter. Watch for the expiration notice on your label. It will read: “Please Renew.” The number to the left above your address indicates the month and year of membership expiration. Example: “9/1/04 means you need to renew your membership before the September meeting in 2004.

Membership Dues: $30.00/year (USD)
Student Dues: $15.00/year (USD)

Please make checks payable to: Minnesota Quilters, Inc. MQ accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover. A portion of the dues is allocated to postage at U.S. Postal rates.

Meeting Admission Reminder
The meeting admission for nonmembers is $3.

The meeting directors remind you to bring your membership card to any and all meetings. This is something that most of you manage just wonderfully. When you have your current membership card in hand, it makes entry into the meeting room a snap! If you’ve searched high and low and just can not find your membership card, please ask Gayle for a replacement card. Badge holders are available at the admission table.
Holiday Brunch
Everyone had a great time at this year’s Holiday Brunch. We saw a parade of Mystery quilts with more than 20 solutions on display. Lots of ornaments were exchanged and many members were proud to display their new holiday blocks.

Six challenge projects were displayed and by popular vote, Doris Kraemer’s won first place.

One of the final events of the day was the awarding of the centerpieces (beautiful pointsettia plants). We were first told that to win the centerpiece someone at each table had to just take it! But then, we were given instructions: While the following story was read, each time we heard “right” the plant was passed to the right. If we hear “left” it would pass to the left. Halfway through the story, it became hard to hear over the laughter of quilters.

If you’d like to play this game at your next gathering, adjust the story for the occasion and follow the tale of the Right family.

A CELEBRATION WITH THE RIGHT FAMILY
Christmas was almost here and Mother Right was finishing the Christmas baking. Father Right, Sue Right and Billy Right returned from their last minute Christmas Shopping. “There’s not much left to be done,” said Father Right as he came into the kitchen. “Did you leave the basket of food at the left door of the Church?” asked Mother Right. “I left it right where you told me to” said Father Right.

“I’m glad my shopping is done” said Billy Right. “I don’t have any money left.”

The telephone rang and Susan Right left to answer it. She rushed back and told the family, “Aunt Tilley Right left a package for us right on Grandma’s right porch. I’ll go over there right now and get it,” she said as she left in a rush. Father Right left the kitchen and brought in the Christmas tree. By the time Susan Right returned, Mother Right, Father Right and Billy Right had begun trimming the tree. The entire Right family sang carols as they finished the decorating. Then they left all the presents arranged under the tree and went to bed hoping they had selected the right gifts for their family.

Now I hope you have the right present for yourself, because that’s all that’s left of this story, except to wish you a Merry Christmas…isn’t that right?
Sew Many Northern Lights  
St. Cloud, MN  
June 15 - 17, 2006  
Classes begin June 14

Plans are coming along for the 2006 show. We’re still looking for a few good quilters to help make this show a success.

The next meeting for the 2006 Show Committee is January 23, 2005, from 2:00pm - 4:00pm. If you’re interested in helping please contact Mary Brandt at 763-497-5826 or mq2006@mnquilt.org.

Calendar of Events

Evening meetings begin at 7:00 pm and Day meetings begin at 10:00 am, except as noted.

✮

January 6-8: Duluth Show Preview  
January 8: 2005 ALL Show committees meeting at TCM  
January 23: 2006 Show Committee Meeting  
January 24: Board of Directors Meeting

✮

February 3-5: Sweetheart Month Anne Marie Yohnk present Redwork. Owatonna Heritage Quilters & Piecemakers Raffle Quilt  
February 6: 2005 ALL Show committees meeting Duluth Art Institute 2:00PM  
February 28: Board of Directors Meeting

✮

March 3-5: Dye Artist  
March 4: Workshop  
March 12: 2005 Show committees Walk through DECC St. Louis River Room Noon  
March 28: Board of Directors Meeting

✮

April 7-9: 10 x 10 - 10 quilters share 10 quilts to make 100! Birthday Cake and Fun  
April 10: 2005 ALL Show committees meeting Duluth Art Institute 2:00PM

✮

May 5-6: Brandywine Designs  
May 6: Board of Directors Meeting  
May 21: ALL Show committees meeting at DECC Noon

✮

June 9-11: Stars in the Harbor Annual Show in Duluth (Classes begin June 8)  
June 27: Board of Directors Meeting

✮

General Meetings are free for MQ Members and $3.00 for nonmembers. Workshops require an additional fee for all attendees.

Help Wanted

Operations Director
This Board Position will oversee office management, volunteerism within the MQ Organization along with Membership. You will get involved with the budget. Two year commitment that will take approximately 20 hours per month. For more information, please contact Polly North president@mnquilt.org

Day or Evening Director
This is a really fun position where you get to meet new friends and get involved in the type of programs you would like to see at meetings. The Education Director will help and mentor on programs and conducting meetings. We have restructured these positions so that it will be fun and not take a large amount of your time. For more information contact ed@mnquilt.org

True Friend
Friend willing to come and clean house and cook for family so I can finish my quilts. Willing to pay in old quilt magazines. For more information call 555 – quiltaholic :-)

Coffee Maker
Person willing to come a little early to the Textile Center on Thursday Evening Meetings to start the coffee. Because we all know how nice it is to have a cup of coffee before the meeting starts… For more info call Mary Lueders 952-475-9919.
Minnesota Quilts: Creating Connections to Our Past

MQP’s book, to be published by Voyageur Press in May, 2005, will showcase 150 quilts from the approximately 4,000 documented by the Minnesota Quilt Project during the past 20 years.

The story of the quilts is told through glorious color photographs, vintage black and white images and detailed, informative text. Drawing on oral interviews with quilters and the close study of Minnesota’s classic quilts, MQ members Gail Bakkom, Jean Carlton, Patricia Cox, Laura Jelinek, Linda Kosfeld, Jean Loken, Elise Schebler and Kelly Willis explore the connections quilts have had to our history, our families and our everyday life.

Pre-publication order price is US$35.00 (tax is US$2.00). Avoid US$4.00 shipping by picking up your prepaid copy at the 2005 MQ Show in Duluth, June 9-11, 2005

Reserve your copy today by completing the form below and sending it with payment or indicating credit card information.

The form can also be found at www.mnquilt.org.

The Minnesota Quilts: Creating Connections to Our Past Pre-order Form

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If Shipment is outside the US, please contact MQP@mnquilt.org for shipping charges. Send completed form to:

Minnesota Quilt Project
Minnesota Quilters, Inc.
3000 University Ave. SE, Suite 120
Minneapolis, MN 55444

Help Wanted

Like quilt books? Like to write?

We have a list of books by teachers who will be at the 2005 show. These books are not in our library. If you are interested in doing a review of one (or more) of these books, please contact our president for a title. MQ will buy the book, you do the review and return it to the TCM library to be shelved...pretty easy, huh? Contact Polly North - president@mnquilt.org
February 5 - February 26

**Threads of Our Time**, a Quilt and Fiber Show at the Kanabec History Center, Mora, MN

Open to Household/Decorating and clothing items - old or new. Quilting, Weaving, Crochet, Knitting, Tatting, Embroidery, Hardanger, Needlepoint, etc. Anyone can enter an item/items. There is no fee for entering. 1st, 2nd, 3rd place awards will be given in various categories. The History Center will be accepting items for the show, Jan 19 through Jan 29. Items may be offered for sale. (The History Center has a 25% consignment fee.) Admission to the show is $1.00. For more information call 320-679-1665 or email center@kanabechistory.org

February 8 - March 4

**Seasons of Quilts** presented by Dakota County Star Quilters at Dakota County Historical Society Museum, South St. Paul, MN. Susan Cleveland lectures Tues, Feb 8 at 1pm and 7pm (museum open by special arrangement). Advance tickets required for Tues. only $4, call 651-452-5957 Museum open Wed., Fri. 9am-5pm, Thurs. 9am-8pm, Sat. 10am-3pm. $3 museum donation suggested. Call 651-552-7548 for more information

April 1 - 2

**The Sky's the Limit**, the expanded annual quilt show presented by Maple Grove Quilters. Maple Grove Community Centers. Featured Quilter: Shelly Wolfgram. Quilt Exhibits, raffle quilt, small quilt auction, demonstrations, vendors. Fri 4pm-9pm Sat 10am-4pm. Admission $3.00 Contact Linda Wines at 763-553-9368 or lindawines@comcast.net

April 3 - 24

**Breath of Spring: A Quilt Show**, the seventh triennial Piecemakers’ quilt show. Tuesdays through Sundays 1pm-5pm(closed Mondays). Owatonna Arts Center, Additional Information Owatonna Arts Center 507-451-0522

April 23- 24


April 29-May 1

**Quilting by the Lakes** Presented by the Country Quilters of Willmar, MN, Willmar Civic Center. Quilt Challenge, Mini Trunk Shows and Demos, Vendors, Quilt Raffle. Fri 4pm-8pm Sat 10am-5pm Sun 11am-4pm Admission $4.00

Be sure to send in your information to the editor as soon as your event dates are finalized. The deadline for this newsletter is the first day of the month before the newsletter is printed e.g., February 1 for the March newsletter. Your quilt show or exhibit does NOT have to be MQ sponsored. The only requirement is that it be quilt related and not for profit. MQ News reserves the right to reformat and edit the content for length.