December Holiday Brunch:
December 2, 2006 10:00 a.m.
University of St. Thomas: Binz Hall

Start the holiday season by joining all your quilting friends for a delicious brunch. See page 10 for the details, directions and map to St. Thomas.

November Program Highlights:

Priscilla Bianchi: Guatemalan Art Quilter
Our November program was filled with laughter as native Guatemalan, Priscilla Bianchi delighted us with stories of how she became an art quilter and her travels around the world. Even though she has only been quilting for seven years she has exhibited her work internationally and continues to try to spark interest in quilting in her native country. Her slide show depicted pictures of Guatemalan people and places that she draws her inspiration from and we saw many of her one-of-a-kind Art Quilts that integrate cultures by combining traditional American quilt-making techniques with the richness of Guatemalan hand woven textiles, colors, and patterns. Her workshop on Friday -- “Stripe Revolution” -- focused on the use of striped Guatemalan fabrics and the importance of the design wall to play with colors. Priscilla has written her first book “Quilting With Color” published by Krause Publications to be released in the fall of 2007. To learn more about Priscilla’s innovative work, her many exhibitions and publications, her fabric lines and teaching schedule visit her website www.priscillabianchi.com.

January Program

Thursday, January 4, @ 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, January 6 @10:00 a.m.

2007 Quilt Show Preview: “Land of 10,000 Quilts”
The January show meeting is an opportunity to look at faculty samples, books, and other information related to our show faculty. If you have taken a class from one of our teachers, own one of her/his books, and you have made a quilt based on one of their

Quilt Guilds of Minnesota:
Remember to send a notice of your quilt show or quilt-related public event to editor@mnquilt.org for placement in the newsletter Bulletin Board.

Check out the contact information for your quilt guild on the mnquilt.org website to insure that your guild is represented correctly. Feel free to send a copy of your newsletter to the MQ Editor.
Infrastructure: an underlying base or supporting structure. The basic services and installations needed for the growth and function of an organization. (from The American Heritage Dictionary)

At our last Board of Directors meeting our Treasurer, Wendy, passionately spoke of the need for Minnesota Quilters’s, Inc. to continue building a strong infrastructure. As I looked around the table at the people who have volunteered their time, energy and service to grow Minnesota Quilters, I was struck by the amazing talent in that room. Then I reflected on all the people who are working toward that growth goal, such as the Show Committee, MQP, monthly meeting volunteers, newsletter editor, membership, special events, and the list goes on. Again, I was overwhelmed. The hours dedicated to building on the MQ infrastructure are truly mind-boggling.

In the past year Minnesota Quilters has taken a major leap in hiring two staffmembers. Becky, our office manager, has been a wonderful presence in the Textile Center, has organized our operation and has given a voice to people seeking assistance in the MQ office. Linda, our Show Consultant, has been able to take a firm lead in the behind the scenes operations of our annual show. The addition of these two very capable people has strengthened our infrastructure significantly.

In order for our organization to continue to grow and flourish there needs to be a continual rotation of volunteers to keep the momentum, energy and creativity going. Our Nominating Committee is in place and will be seeking volunteers to fill positions that will become vacant next year. If you have ever entertained the notion that you may want to step into a position on the Board of Directors, or one of the other positions available within Minnesota Quilters, please call the MQ office and express your interest. You will be so glad you became part of the infrastructure that will sustain Minnesota Quilters.

As always, Happy Quilting . . .

Paula Gaboury
MQ Calendar of Events

Evening meetings begin at 7:00 pm and Day meetings begin at 10:00 am, except as noted. Board meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month, starting at 6:30 pm.

November 2 & 4: General Meetings
November 3: Priscilla Bianchi Workshop
November 14: Board Meeting

December 2: Holiday Party at Binz Hall, University of St. Thomas
December 18: Board Meeting

January 4 & 6: General Meetings
January 16: Board Meeting

February 1 & 3: General Meetings
February 20: Board Meeting

March 1 & 3: General Meetings
March 20: Board Meeting

April 5 & 7: General Meetings
April 17: Board Meeting

May 3 & 5: General Meetings
May 16: Board Meeting

June 14-16: MQ 2007 in Saint Paul

July 5 & 7: General Meetings
July 14: Board Meeting

August 2 & 4: General Meetings
August 18: Board Meeting

September 6 & 8: General Meetings
September: Annual Board Retreat

General Meetings are free for MQ members and $3.00 for non-members. Workshops require an additional fee for all attendees.

MQ News

...is the monthly newsletter for members of Minnesota Quilters, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed to find and unite quilters and quilt enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota and elsewhere. MQ News is published eleven times a year by Minnesota Quilters, Inc.

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of Minnesota Quilters, Inc. Although every effort has been made to provide timely and accurate information, Minnesota Quilters, Inc. shall have no liability to any person or entity with respect to liability, loss, or damage caused or alleged to be caused directly or indirectly by the information contained in this newsletter. This publication is intended to provide generalized information only and not to render professional advice.

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-- Advertising Rates --
Effective March 1, 2004

Discounted rates for advertising available to MQ members.

Classified Ad ....................... $10/3 lines
Business Card
Horizontal Only 3.5" x 2" - .......... $20/mo
1/4 Page Ad
Vertical Only 3.75" x 4.75" - ....... $40/mo
1/3 Page Ad
Vertical Only 2.5" x 9.5" - .......... $50/mo
1/2 Page Ad
Vertical - 3.75" x 9.5" or
Horizontal 7" x 4.75" - ............ $75/mo
Horizontal Back Cover ............ $90/mo
Horizontal Back Cover
with additional color .................. $175/mo
Full Page Ad - 7.5" x 9.5" - ...... $150/mo

Call for other sizes.

The next issue is December, 2006.
The deadline for submitting ads and articles for consideration is December 5, 2006.

All advertising fees must be included with any submitted advertising. Please contact the MQ office to place an ad and the Editor to submit an article or item. All items for publication are subject to review. MQ charges for ad space; at MQ’s discretion, announcements and other information of interest to guild members may be published at no charge. All ads (except classified ads) must be submitted in camera-ready format. Ads must be paid in advance. Ads will be accepted on a space-available basis in the order payment is received.

All ads and articles may be sent by email to editor@mnquilt.org or sent by mail to:

Lori Allison
MQ News Editor
3705 North Shore Drive
Wayzata, MN 55391
612-436-0449 MQ Office
952-471-0131 Editor
2008 Rochester Quilt Show Co-Chairs and Committee Members: Our show planning begins two years ahead of time, so we have now begun planning for the 2008 show, our 30th anniversary show. Some volunteers have already come forward. Committee positions in sponsors, vendors, challenge and small quilt auction are filled. We still need the following: Co-chairs, secretary, treasurer, door prizes, judged exhibits, non-judged exhibits, special exhibits, faculty, merchandise, publishing/printing, raffle quilt, raffle, registration, signage, special events, volunteers... If you have been thinking about building on your prior show experience and/or putting your own show ideas into action, now is the time to come forward for a great show in Rochester. Assistance is in place to make your experience easier. You can do it!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BOM - January 6 Drawing

“X” Marks the Spot for a Small Celebration

8” Finished  8½” Unfinished
From the assorted dark (white on black) prints, cut 12 squares at 1½” and one square at 2½”

From the lightest prints (black on white), cut *four strips each:

√ 1½” x 2½”
√ 1½” x 4½”
√ 1½” x 6½”

*Cut one (any one) of the above rectangles from the bright, neon print. Use that bright print in one of the rectangle spots – there are 25 to choose from.

Minnesoat Quilters, Inc., Outstanding Volunteer Award

Minnesota Quilters has initiated a new annual award in recognition of the outstanding contributions of our many, many volunteers. The MQ Outstanding Volunteer Award will be awarded annually at our April birthday party to an MQ member who has been a loyal volunteer over time and across responsibilities. The honoree will receive a year’s free membership, a quilt shop gift certificate and recognition on a MQ Outstanding Volunteer Plaque. MQ board members welcome member nominations for this award. Email a board member or send a postcard naming your nominee including supporting information before the February board meeting.

Looking for something different for a holiday gift? Come find it at the Textile Center 2006 Holiday Show and Sale running November 10 – Dec. 30. The shop will be full of unique pieces from local artisans for sale, and your shopping will help support the Textile Center. Come and shop for some beautiful gifts.

Upcoming call for entries: A COMMON THREAD ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBITION

Entry Deadline: December 1, 2006 if you are a current member of the Textile Center you are eligible to enter one piece in the Members Exhibition. All entries are accepted. This is your opportunity to exhibit your work without submitting an image. What could be easier? For an application go to the Textile Center's website, http://www.textilecentermn.org

Winners!
October BOM: Catherine Apostle won 19 Maple Leaf
November BOM: Judy Renmoe won 14 Snowmen

Textile Center
A national center for fiber art

Minnesota Quilters, Inc., Outstanding Volunteer Award

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Looking to add some 3 dimension to your quilting? The look to the Upper Midwest Bead Society Members Sale. Jewelry & craft items made by UMBS members. Also Beads, Beadwork Kits and Lampwork Beads. Saturday December 9th, 10 am 5 pm. Free admission at the Textile Center Auditorium.
MQ 2007 Quilt Show
Land of 10,000 Quilts

2007 Quilt Show Door Prizes
It is that time again. We all love to win door prizes and you can help to make the 2007 show fun in this way. If you have quilting-related items that would make a good door prizes such as:
1. If you are cleaning out your stash and you can make an appealing bundle that someone else will delight over;
2. If you have nearly new quilting books that feature quilts YOU WILL NEVER MAKE;
3. If you’ve purchased a pattern and fabric for a project and now you have a “What was I thinking?” feeling about it;
4. If you’ve made 48 churn dash blocks from Aunt Gracie fabrics and now you’ve fallen in love with hand dyed batiks;
5. If you’ve received a complicated appliqué pattern and fabric as a gift and you’re all thumbs with a needle and thread;

Send it to the door prize committee. We are looking for anything quilt related that is in new condition with a retail value of approx $20-25. Think fat quarters, patterns, books, and notions. Contact Karen Zalewski 651-398-2775. email. kezalewski@comcast.net. Mail items to K.E. Zalewski, 7302 Paul Alcove, Woodbury, MN 55125. You may also drop donated door prizes at the monthly program meetings.

2007 Show: Non-judged/Children’s Exhibit

THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING…
The kids are home from school…
The grandkids/nieces/nephew are coming and spending a “few” days…

An activity idea is to have them make a quilt to enter in the Children’s exhibit at the Show in June!! We love to have lots of kids’ quilts, each entry gets a ribbon, and after the show they will have something wonderful that they made to remind them of the time spent with you.

Show Registration News & To Do List

• DO register by MAIL – NO ONLINE REGISTRATION, NO FAXING this year
• DO keep a copy of your registration form.
• DO add notes or letters to us with your registration form to clarify what classes you would like.
• DO know that your check and/or credit card will be processed upon receipt – no more wondering when your check will be cashed or credit card processed.

All registration forms will go directly to the MQ office and all credit cards and checks will be processed immediately upon receipt for the total amount you indicate on your form. Your registration forms will be passed along to the committee member in the order received with postmarks in tact. Refunds, if necessary, will go out later – once class lists have been finalized.

Each year, we listen to member’s comments and try to improve the accounting and clerical steps that we hope will make your registration into your chosen classes, lectures and meals flow smoothly for you and for everyone.
MQ2007 Saint Paul
Lodging and Visitor Information

Where to Stay in Saint Paul
Plan ahead to attend the Minnesota Quilters Show and Conference June 13–17, 2007 at RiverCentre in Saint Paul. Rooms have been blocked at the following hotels for use by Minnesota Quilters show attendees during the week of the show. To receive the special room rates, mention Minnesota Quilters when making your reservations.
Make your hotel reservations early. Saint Paul is hosting the “Back to the 50’s” weekend and hotel rooms may fill quickly.

Holiday Inn RiverCentre
175 West 7th Street
Saint Paul, MN  55102
For reservations call: (651)225-1515
www.holiday-inn.com/stpaulmn
The Holiday Inn River Centre is the closest hotel to RiverCentre, located across the street from the main entrance.
Minnesota Quilters Rate—$119.00 single or double occupancy
Special room rates are based on availability. Reservations must be made by May 23, 2007. Parking fee: $13 per day per vehicle

The Saint Paul Hotel
350 Market Street
Saint Paul, MN  55102
For reservations call (651)292-9292
www.stpaulhotel.com
The St. Paul Hotel combines turn-of-the-century beauty with every possible modern grace & convenience. Overlooking Rice Park just a few blocks from RiverCentre.
Minnesota Quilters Rate—$162.00 single or double occupancy
Special room rates are based on availability. Reservations must be made by May 15, 2007. Parking fee: $18 per 24-hour period

Crowne Plaza St. Paul Riverfront (formally Radisson Riverfront)
11 East Kellogg Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN  55101
For reservations call (651)292-1900 or (800)2-CROWNEwww.ichotelsgroup.com
“The Place to Meet!” Located four blocks from RiverCentre.
Minnesota Quilters Rate—$129.00 single or double occupancy
Special room rates are based on availability. Reservations must be made by May 23, 2007. Garage parking is available for $12.50 per day for hotel guests

Embassy Suites
175 10th Street East
Saint Paul, MN  55101
For reservations call (651)224-5400
www.embassysuiteshotels.com
Located 10 Blocks from RiverCentre.
Minnesota Quilters Rate—$139.00 single or double occupancy
Special room rates are based on availability. Limited guest parking is available for $8.00 per day.

Best Western Kelly Inn
161 St. Anthony Avenue
Saint Paul, MN  55103
For reservations call (651)227-8711
www.bestwesternstpaul.com
The Best Western Kelly Inn is 7 blocks from RiverCentre. The only hotel in downtown St. Paul with free parking.
Minnesota Quilters Rate—$94 per room
Special room rates are based on availability. Reservations must be made by May 23, 2007.

Note: Special room rates do not include local taxes and fees.

Visitor Information
To find visitor information in Saint Paul, check the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce Web site www.saintpaulchamber.com or the Saint Paul RCVA (RiverCentre Visitors Authority) www.stpaulcvb.org.
2007 MQ Fall Getaway

Newsflash!

The MQ 2007 Fall Getaway will be held at a new location: the University of Minnesota Forestry Center, just west of Cloquet, Minnesota. The Forestry Center is nestled among towering pines, with comfortable, modern accommodations. Each room has two single beds with a private bath. The dates are October 11-14, 2007. (MQ will be the only group staying there at that time.) The cost will be the same as, or less than, the 2006 Getaway. Look for more information in future newsletters and on the MQ website.
Linda Kosfeld and Polly North, Co-Chairs

Membership

New membership, renewal and change of address should be sent to:

Membership
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: “9/1/07” means you need to renew your membership before the September meeting in 2007.

Membership Dues: $40/year
Email Newsletter Membership Dues: $35/year
Volunteer Membership Dues: $30/year
Student Membership Dues: $15/year

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

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 stop at the Membership table for a replacement card to be made. Badge holders are available at the admission table.

MQ Membership Dues (effective December 1, 2006):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Annual Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Membership</td>
<td>$40/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Membership*</td>
<td>$35/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Membership**</td>
<td>$30/yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Membership***</td>
<td>$15/yr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Member will receive MQ NEWS by email
** Member is serving or has served in a year-long MQ volunteer position, i.e. MQ board, MQ show committee, membership, newsletter editor, day/evening coordinator, etc.
*** Member is a student 18 years or younger

Minnesota Quilters, Inc., dues were last raised almost six years ago, in January of 2001. Since then almost all of our expenses have risen—office and auditorium use, printing costs, postage, etc. We have hired two part time staff people. The new dues structure reflects those cost increases while at the same time acknowledging the cost savings possible through email newsletter delivery and the real value contributed by volunteers.
October Program Highlights
by Patty Von Arx & Debbie Craig

We had a beautiful fall weekend for our guest from San Diego, Peggy Martin. She was born and raised in Ohio and currently lives in San Diego with her husband and two grown sons. This was Peggy’s first visit to the Twin Cities and she loved our local quilt shops and the Mall of America. Peggy was gracious enough to pack 43 quilts in her suitcases and trust the airlines to get them here safely, which they did. She gave us an entertaining and colorful lecture about her quick strip paper piecing method while including some background information on how she started quilting and teaching Community Education in California. She showed us quilts from her current book “Quick Strip Paper Piecing”, and we were privileged to be the first group to see quilts from her upcoming book due out in February 2007. If you were unable to come to the lecture visit Peggy’s website (www.peggymartinquilts.com) to see her current quilts, and around the first of the year her website will be updated with the quilts from her new book.

Friday’s Millennium Star workshop was a huge success as most participants were surprised how simple this technique was and how easy it was to cut out since the whole star is made from 15 strips of fabric in varying widths. It was fun to see participants’ finished stars as color choices make them all look so different. For those of you intimidated by paper piecing check out Peggy’s technique as she donated a copy of her book to Minnesota Quilters and the Textile Center Library.

Textile Center Library Procedures

Minnesota Quilts is a Participating Member Guild and its current members can check out items from the library. Please have your guild card or a picture ID available when checking out library materials.

Checkout period: 35 days

Maximum number of items that may be checked out per member: 10

Number of times you may renew an item (in person or by phone): Once

Fine for overdue items: $1 per day per item

Online access: Go to the Textile Center Web site, www.textilecentermn.org; then select “Library”; then select “Go to the Online Catalog.”

Note: your library number is NOT the same as your MQ membership number. Call the library (612/436-0464, ext. 108) during open hours to find out what your number is. The number also prints on your library materials receipt (it’s the “ID” right under your name).

Library Hours: Monday, 9am–1pm; Tuesday 9am–7pm; Thursday, 9am–1pm and 5pm–7pm; Friday, 9am–1pm; Saturday, 12pm–4pm. The Library is NOT open on Wednesdays or Sundays.

To volunteer to work at the library, please see the sign-up sheets outside the library door. If you need training, please contact librarian Nancy Mambi at librarian@textilecentermn.org.

Fat Quarter Drawing News

There is no fat quarter drawing in December.

The November fat quarter drawing winner was Laurel Haycock.

At the January meeting, the fat quarter drawing will be winter blues, snowflakes, etc.

2006-07 Evening Director-Elect Needed

We are still in need of a person (or pair of people) to work with the present and evening coordinator and education directors to learn the ropes of planning and producing our wonderful monthly meetings. If you come to Thursday night meetings please consider this opportunity as we have a fabulous, but shorthanded team and are in need of some willing participants.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Debbie Craig at (952)544-6341 or Patty Von Arx at (612) 865-4471 or email us at: ed@mnquilt.org.

From the Editor

From this, my first solo issue, I’ve garnered a whole lot more respect for the newsletter editors who came before me -- Karen O’Brien and Pam Ronan -- both of whom I have on speed dial!

Using a tricky new-to-me desktop publishing software has left me mumbling incoherently over the orphan boxes, superfluous lines, crooked margins and my complete inability to wrap text around an image. Bear with me; this part can only improve.

I hope you enjoy, however, the articles and news contributed by the various volunteers, committee members and myself. I particularly enjoyed reporting on Houston quilt market and festival -- don’t ask me why I wasn’t able to include any of the 300+ digital images that I recorded in Houston…..this issue has got to go out!
Be sure to send in your information to the editor as soon as finalize your event dates; the deadline for this newsletter is the fifth day of the month before the newsletter is printed e.g., February 5 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.

**Bulletin Board**

**April 14 & 15, 2007** Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m at the Northfield Middle School, 2200 Division Street S., Northfield, MN. Admission is $3.00. Featured quilter, vendors, raffle quilt, a bed-turning & small quilt auction. For more information, contact Julie Windschitl at (507) 645-2411 or northfieldquilter@gmail.com.

**MQP Update**

The Hennepin County Government Center has given us the opportunity to exhibit quilts during the month of January. The quilts will be up for nearly a month from January 3 to January 29, 2007. We will have quilts representing the years from 1800 to 2000 as well as small sewing items.

Our new books of quilt blocks are coming along nicely. The majority of the patterns have been turned in and we are now exploring ways to laminate and assemble them.

**Minnesota Quilter Charter Member:**
Kay Bailey, age 84, of Maple Plain, World War II Womens Army Air Corps Veteran. Preceded in death by husband, Boyd Anson Bailey. Survived by children, Penny Bailey, William Bailey; Memorial services were Tuesday October 24th.
MQ Holiday Brunch

The annual MQ Holiday Brunch will take place on Saturday, December 2, beginning at 10 am. The brunch will be held at Binz Hall at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. It is a very pleasant facility with wonderful food.

Brunch reservations with payment must be received by November 20. The ticket price of $20 includes a “make-it-take-it” surprise project. Bring a scissors and thimble (if desired).

As usual, there will be show-and-tell, and we would especially like to see any quilts that you are making for gifts (even if they are not finished).

Block exchange

Bring a 12-1/2” (12” finished size) block in holiday colors or with a holiday theme. Use a white or cream/tan background fabric. This is sort of a “mystery” exchange because the blocks will be put in paper bags (white bag for white background; brown for cream background) and you won’t know what you’re getting.

There is a maximum of three blocks for each background, per person (6 total). You will get a ticket for each block you bring, and you will turn in your ticket(s) when you select a bag(s).

Ornament Exchange

Bring a handmade quilted or quilt-related ornament to exchange. You can bring up to three ornaments for exchange. You will get a ticket for each ornament that you bring, and ornaments will be placed in paper bags so the ornament you receive will be a surprise!

Reservations need to be made by Nov. 20.

Reservation Coordinator: Wanda Shelton, 797 Parker Avenue, Roseville, MN 55113.

We hope to see you at Binz Hall for a festive time and a sharing of a beloved MQ tradition!

Diana Houston
and the Holiday Brunch Committee
Minnesotans Well-Represented at Houston Quilt Market and International Quilt Festival

By Lori Allison, Editor

Fall Quilt Market, always held in Houston and just prior to the International Quilt Festival, is a tradeshows where companies and people, who manufacture products for the quilt industry, market them to shop owners. This show is not open to the public. This is one of the ways that shop owners go out to find the products and fabrics to stock in their quilt shop. One of the most fantastic features of quilt market is just seeing the fabric manufacturer’s lavishly decorated booths AND ALL THE NEW FABRICS! Oh my.

In only my second showing at market, I felt a little more comfortable to leave my booth to walk around and see the other new products and fabrics offered. Talk about a kid in a candy store – an eye candy store! The LakeHouse Dry Goods (famous for that hydrangea fabric a few years ago) booth was a vision of color and daisies. The Hoffman of California booth was fabulous in its rich variety of fabric, saturated colors and unique quilt displays. Kaffe Fassett and Amy Butler, live and in-person were present at the very colorful Westminster Fibers booth. Not only are the fabric manufacturer’s putting their best foot forward, the pattern producers, like myself, outdid themselves with clever booth design and quilt displays. How fun it is to see the actual quilt that appears on the cover of familiar patterns. Minnesota’s own Pam Dinndorf of Aardvark Designs, again, won an award for most attractive booth design.

But most impressive is the huge contribution that Minnesotans make to the quilt industry. Following is an unscientific list of quilt product & service producers from our great state:

Aardvark Quilts, Pam Dinndorf, St. Cloud
Allison Designs, Lori Allison, Wayzata
Bold Over Batiks, Mary Scott & Faridah Rahman, St. Paul
Cedar Canyon Textiles, Shelly Stokes, Miltona
Cotton Tales Pattern Company, Pamela Curd, Hackensack
Cross Cuts, Kay Cross & Lynda Lacche, Spring Grove
GE Designs, Gudrun Erla, Chanhassen
Heartfelt Garden, Cindy Nordin, Prior Lake
Kwik Sew Pattern Co., Inc., Shari Haugen, Minneapolis
New Leaf Stitches, Kay Carr & Carrie Thompson, Fergus Falls
Pattern Peddlers, Rollin & Penel Jensen, Nevis
Prairie Sky Quilting, Prior Lake, MN
Quilt Poetry, Jane Spolar, Sauk Rapids
Quiltworks Distributors, Minneapolis
Ta-Da Quilt Products, Linda Bloudek, Chanhassen
This & That, Sherri Falls, Mayer

International Quilt Festival is, well, the icing on the cake of quilt shows. Of course, I haven’t been to The Hague’s Festival, Tokyo’s Show, or even Paducah, Sisters, Road to CA or Chicago and they might take umbrage! In the exhibits, one quickly runs out of words of exclamation. “Wow” just can’t describe the full size quilt, in the Michiko Takakuwa special exhibit, that is hand sewn entirely of hexagons the size of the tip of your little finger – maybe smaller! Check out a blogspot titled quittilyouwilt.blogspot.com for some pics of this quilt. Aside from the judged competitions, other special exhibits included an anthology of the work of Caryl Breyer Fallert, a large group of spectacular Amish quilts and another exhibit of mosaic quilts – all unbelievably fantastic.

Another sponsor exhibit was a generous selection of familiar quilts from our own Claudia Clark Meyers from Duluth. Claudia showed many of these quilts at our MQ August program where we were fortunate to be able to look at up close and even touch! Claudia also won a ribbon in the two-person category for her quilt, Yellow Bird pieced by Claudia and quilted by Marilyn Badger.

Overall winner of the $10,000 prize was Sieglinde Smith with her pictorial quilt based upon a children’s book, “Mother Earth and Her Children.” While photos were allowed, it was difficult to get close enough to see the quilt for the throng of onlookers and listeners as she described this, her 3rd quilt! The $7,500 Founders Award went to Diane Gaudynski, of Wisconsin (nearly a Minnesotan!) for her Shadows of Umbria – a simple traditional quilt exceptional for it’s magnificent machine quilting.

Other Minnesota winners included,

3rd place in the innovative small pieced category went to Susan Nelson of Prior Lake for Swish & Swirl
In the traditional pieced, a 3rd place went to Kathy Munkelwitz of Isle for Winter Flowers

To view all the winner’s quilts from the International Quilt Festival in Houston November 2-5, visit www.quilts.org.

One source quoted the total prize money package for festival judged competition to be more than $80,000. Wow!

Some of the Minnesotans present with vendor booths at Festival included The Sampler, a Chanhassen quilt shop specializing in Kaffe Fassett quilts and fabrics, Bold Over Batiks with their beautiful black and bright ethnic batiks, patterns and kits, who gave a wonderful program to MQ’ers in May, 2006, and Laura Murray with a beautiful, huge display of “surface designer” products such as her famous Paintstix. Ms. Murray spoke to MQ in July, 2006. An over-the-top quilt display was exhibited to sell patterns by soon-to-be St. Cloudian, Lori Smith, of From My Heart To Your Hands pattern company. You may remember Ms. Smith was the MQ program presenter in September, 2005.