



## Marion Maerke Scholarship

The 1994 QUILT TALK had a wonderful article about Marion by Alice Levet. Here are some excerpts.

It all began in late 1983 when the National Quilting Association (NQA) held a quilt show in the New Orleans area. Marion Maerke had recently retired as Administrative Assistant to the Nursing Administrator at Ochsner Hospital. She volunteered as the registrar for the NQA Quilt Show and soon discovered from talking to many of the attendees the need for an organization within the Gulf States area. Since Marion had recently been instrumental in forming the Busy Fingers Guild in 1978 she was familiar with many of the necessary steps to organize a large group.

Marion obtained a list from NQA of quilt show attendees who had expressed an interest in forming a group locally. She then decided to include the areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle. She sent out 100 letters inviting interested parties to get in touch with her. Their first meeting was held at the Smith Library in late January 1984 with 83 attendance.

Marion held many offices in GSQA. Over the years, she was President, Registrar, Show Director, and Seminar Director laying the groundwork for our present organization. She was an NQA certified teacher and judge. Carol Schiaffino and Marion coauthored a book entitled "Fan quilts". Marion also lectured before many quilt groups on all aspects of quilting.

The purpose of the scholarship is to promote and encourage quilters to further their knowledge of techniques, craftsmanship and development of ideas. The scholarship will include classes, room and board.

Eligibility for the scholarship will be based on being a member in good standing of GSQA for at least 2 years. The member should want to further the interest of quilting and Gulf States and have contributed to Gulf States and/or their chapter. He or she must be recommended by a member or a guild in good standing of Gulf States. Each nominee must submit required information for consideration by the board. The recipient will then be selected by a committee. Board and board standing committee members are not eligible. The scholarship will be awarded at the October General Meeting each year. If the recipient is unable to attend the Seminar an alternate will be selected.

In 1994 Marion awarded the first scholarship to Seminar. Winners include:

Peggy Peacock  
Nancy Hinds  
Linda Wiggins  
Sarah Kemp  
Charlotte Jackson  
Yvette Magee  
Vera Honea  
Noreen Mazzaroppi  
Paula McKenna

Meredith Campanella

Joan LeBlanc

Kathy Ayme

Dottie Burkhardt

Mary Gillette

Barbara Skinner

Joyce Reed

Georgia Farnet

Jane Ramee

Ilaine Hartman

Elizabeth Linebrink

Janet Bailey

Donna Downing

Laura Robertson

#### Lois King Excellence in Workmanship Award

Lois King was a member of Ozone Layers Quilt Guild and shared her love of quilting until she passed away December 23, 1989. In 1990 Ozone Layers raffled a quilt in her honor at the GSQA quarterly meeting, which was won by Carole Vallette of Slidell

In 1992 the Ozone Layers Quilt Guild unanimously voted approval for award money placed in GSQA treasury to be given as the Lois King Excellence in Workmanship Award. The new award in Lois's name would be decided by the same qualified judges that designate the awards for the GSQA Quilt Show. The Lois King Excellence in Workmanship Award honors the memory of Lois who showed excellence in every quilt.

Winners include:

Martha Skelton

Karen Gard

Vera Honea

Joan Leblanc

Cena Harmon

Claire Mehalik