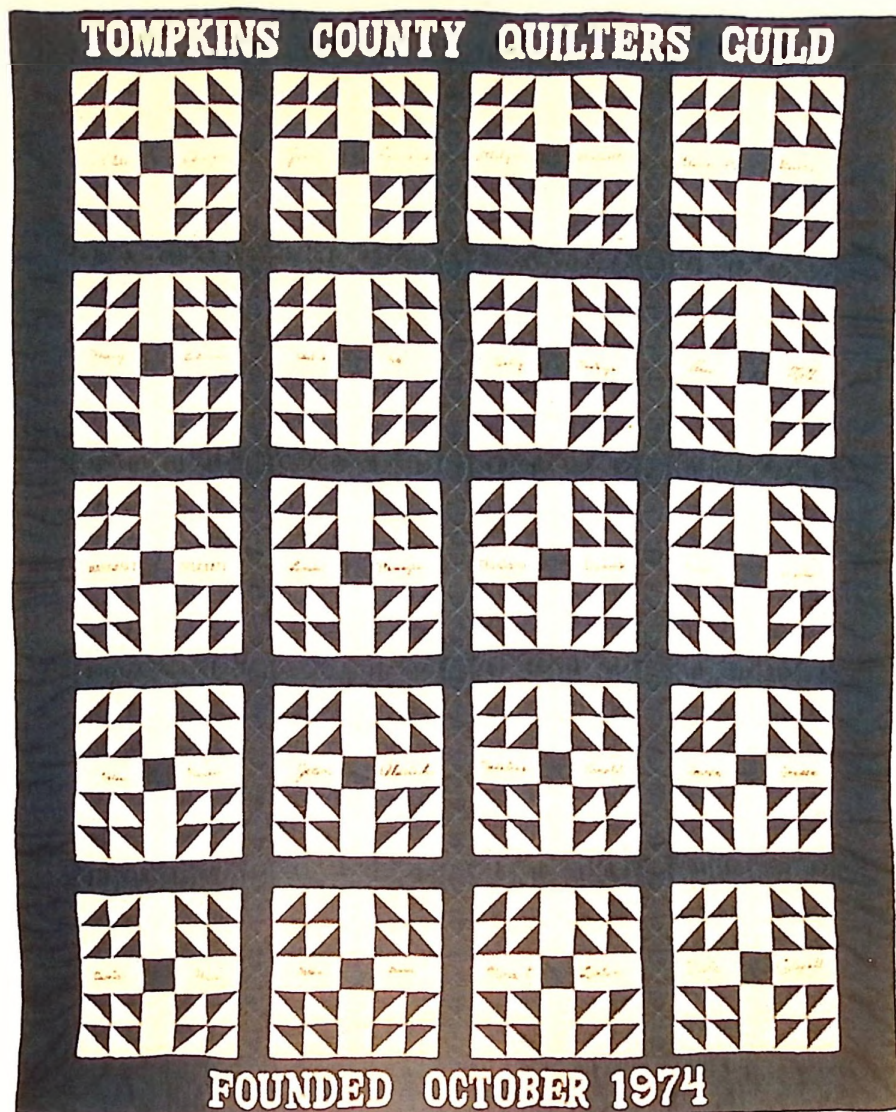


Tompkins County Quilters Guild



Book One

1974 - 1997

Tompkins County Quilters Guild

Book One

1974 - 1997

© 2023
Tompkins County Quilters Guild
Ithaca, New York

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL
DOCUMENTS ARE ON FILE
IN THE ARCHIVES OF

THE HISTORY CENTER
IN TOMPKINS COUNTY

Editor's Note

Digital reproduction of early guild scrapbooks that were compiled by Ruth Him with additions by Barbara Dimock.

1974



Betsy Buell, 9, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Buell of E. Shore Drive, hugs two of her own personal quilts that will be in the Quilting Exhibit to be held at the Women's Community Building Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 3 and 4. One is the Sunbonnet Sue motif and the other is a quilt given to her by her godmother, the late Helen Sears. It was made about 1898 by the women of the Baptist Church in Mecklenburg to raise money to pay the parson. More than a hundred names were inscribed on it (each one paying for the privilege) and it was given to the "most popular young lady in the parish" by vote (each vote cost \$.02) who happened to be two year old Helen Sears at that time.

Many other modern and antique quilts will be displayed at the exhibit with some from Museums. A special quilting bee, demonstrations and slides will be going on during the exhibit, and at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and again at 3 p.m. Sunday a special film from the Shelborne Museum will be shown. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday. Donations are for the benefit of the Women's Community Building.



Barbara Dimock and Madeline Arnold quilting at the exhibit.

Exhibit organized by Jeanne Greene and Jeanne's sister, Helen Varian. Sponsored by the Board of the City Federation of Women's Organizations. The exhibit led to the first organizational meeting of people interested in organizing a quilting guild.

August 3-4, 1974

QUILT EXHIBIT

to Benefit the
WOMEN'S COMMUNITY
BUILDING

DONATION 75c

Historic & Recent Quilts
Literature
Slides

AUG 3&4
SAT 10-8
SUN 11-5:30

children under 12-Free



When finally set up we had a most white
"overshot" coverlet displayed in back of front wheel.

Saturday, August 3, 1974 . ITHACA JOURNAL 9



Quilts on Display

A special quilt exhibit will be held Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Women's Community Building to benefit the Building. In addition to the almost 80 quilts on display, there will be a full-fledged quilting bee, a continuous slide show, and a special film on quilts at 3 and 7 p.m. Saturday, repeated at 3 p.m. Sunday. A room of needlepoint by Ebba Mars will also be included in the Exhibit. A curious passer-by, Laurie Avery, posed for the picture beside the old spinning wheel.

By NATALIE MILLER
Finger Lakes Living Editor

If you are interested in quilting—or even if you aren't—there is going to be an exhibit of a number of antique and modern quilts, demonstrations of quilting techniques, a continuous slide show and even a special needlepoint exhibit at the Women's Community Building Saturday and Sunday Aug. 3 and 4.

The committee has corralled more than 150 quilts from the Shelburne Museum in Vermont, from our own DeWitt Museum, from Elis Hollow Fair, from people and from The Whimsey in Aurora and from oodles of local people. You name it and they have probably found it. Jean Greene is in charge.

Along with all the quilts, they have a team of experienced quilters carrying on an old-fashioned quilting bee, and a chance for beginners to try their hand.

It will be running simultaneously with the New York State Craft Fair at Ithaca College in the hope that some of the out-of-towners will come down the hill to take advantage of the exhibits.

August 5, 1974

It Was Great

The Quilt Exhibit — Sorry If You Missed It

BY NATALIE MILLER

The first quilt exhibit held in the Women's Community Building sponsored by the Board of Directors of the Federation owning the building was a success both financially and artistically according to Mrs. Jeanne Greene, chairman of the committee in charge of the event.

More than 500 persons came to see the exhibit of almost 80 quilts in the auditorium, watch the continuous quilting bee in the upstairs lounge, peruse the books concerning quilting on display, and look in on the needlepoint display by Ebba Mars in a separate room.

The quilts came from personal collections of local people, from specialty shops, and museums. They dated as far back as 1839 and were as modern as this year.

There were several dating from the 1850s belonging to Mrs. Nellie Hamilton and to Mrs. Florence Townsend' both of whom loaned "museum type"



pieces for the display from their private collections.

"I was surprised to see so many men coming to the exhibit and showing an active interest," said Mrs. Greene. "There were many young people who asked very intelligent questions, showing that they had a background of quilting."

The walls of the room were hung with gorgeous quiltsof all kinds, and the others were artfully displayed so that the

designs were evident.

Each quilt had a card attached telling some of the history of it, its design, or something about the pattern used.

Because many of the quilts were local, the many people seemed particularly to enjoy reading the cards.

Mrs. Greene admitted that mounting the quilts to hang had not been easy.

"But I consulted the

Shelborne Museum who loaned us two of their Museum quilts as well as the slide shows, and took their advice," she said.

On long soft pine strips she carefully hand-stapled the quilts and then hung them with wire.

"I figured if the Museum would allow theirs to be hung that way, it would be alright for the others," she said.

None of the quilts were for

sale, but the Shelborne Museum expressed an interest in purchasing one Centennial quilt made by two sisters belonging to "The Whimsey" in Aurora.

Many people signed up saying they would be interested in taking a course in quilting at the Community Building this fall.

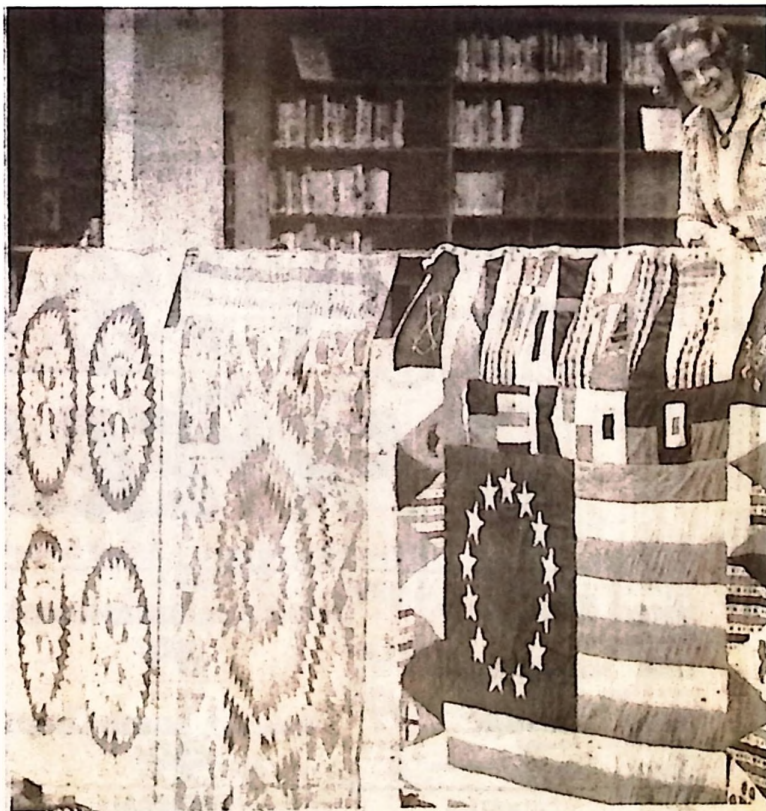
"There seems to be a growing interest in the craft," said Mrs. Greene. "A lot of people had questions and I'm glad we had some experts around who could help them."

Some questions such as how do you clean an antique quilt, and where is the best place to get an antique quilt repaired, the committee suggested getting in touch with Pat Foltz at the DeWitt Historical Society.

"But we were able to answer many of the problems and tell some people how to store them. Keep them out of plastic bags. The quilts have to breathe," she said.

IN several cases, those who came, went back to bring others, which is a sign of a successful exhibit.

August 3-4, 1974
Impetus for forming the guild
Ithaca Journal August 5, 1974

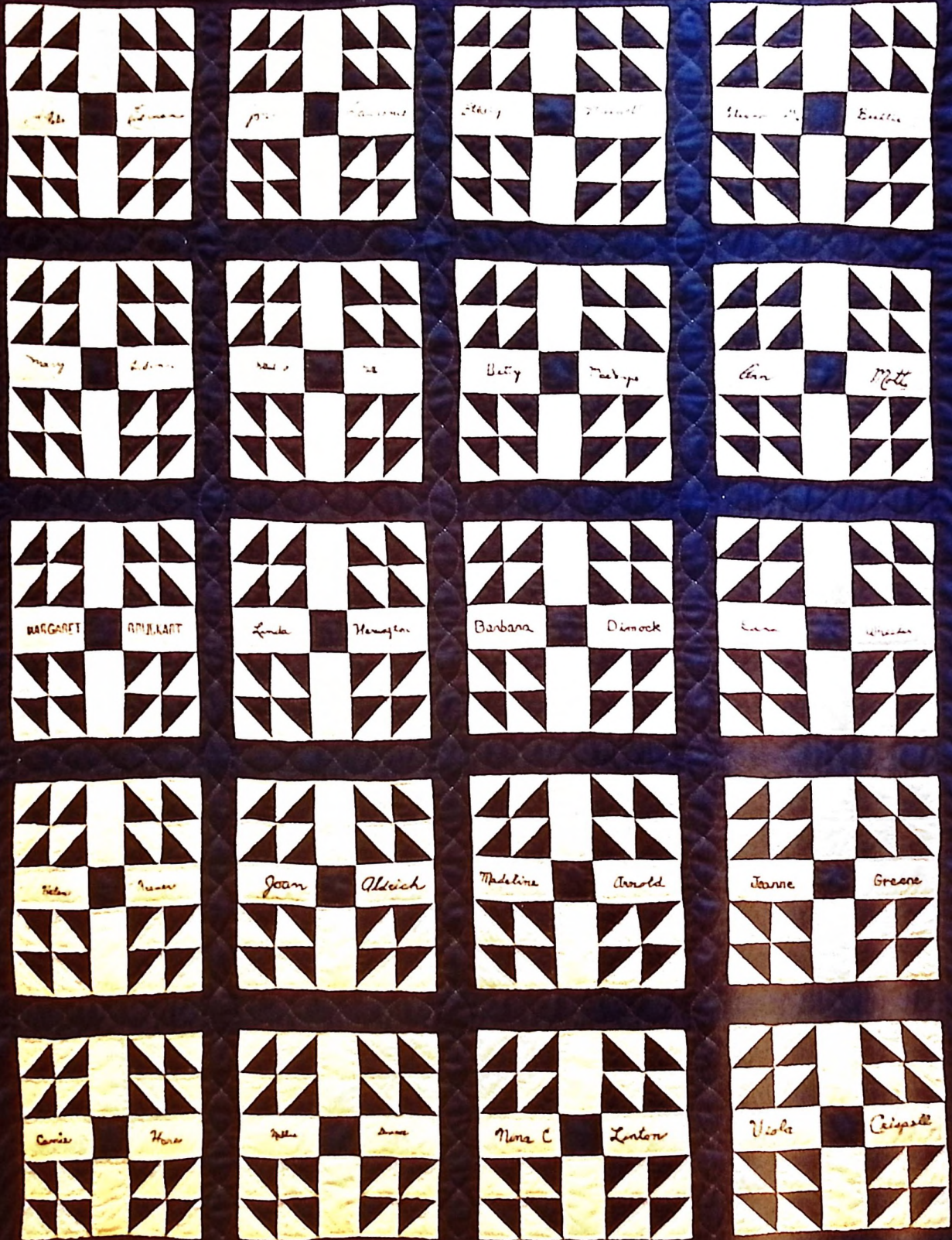


Beth Mulholland's exhibit at the Tompkins County Library for the month of October 1974 also increased interest in local quilting prior to the guild.

Ithaca Journal October 1974

Beth Mulholland hangs one of the locally-made quilts that will be on display at the Tompkins County Public Library until Oct. 25. A special talk on quilts and a "show and tell" evening will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Library. It is open to all interested persons free of charge.

TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD



FOUNDED OCTOBER 1974

GUILD BANNER

OUR GUILD BANNER

SQUARES MADE AND SIGNED BY EACH FOUNDING MEMBER

Phebe Erdman Joan Lawrence Ethelyn Maxwell Eleanor A. Beattie

Mary A. Flinn Mildred F. Miller Betty MacKenzie Ann Mott

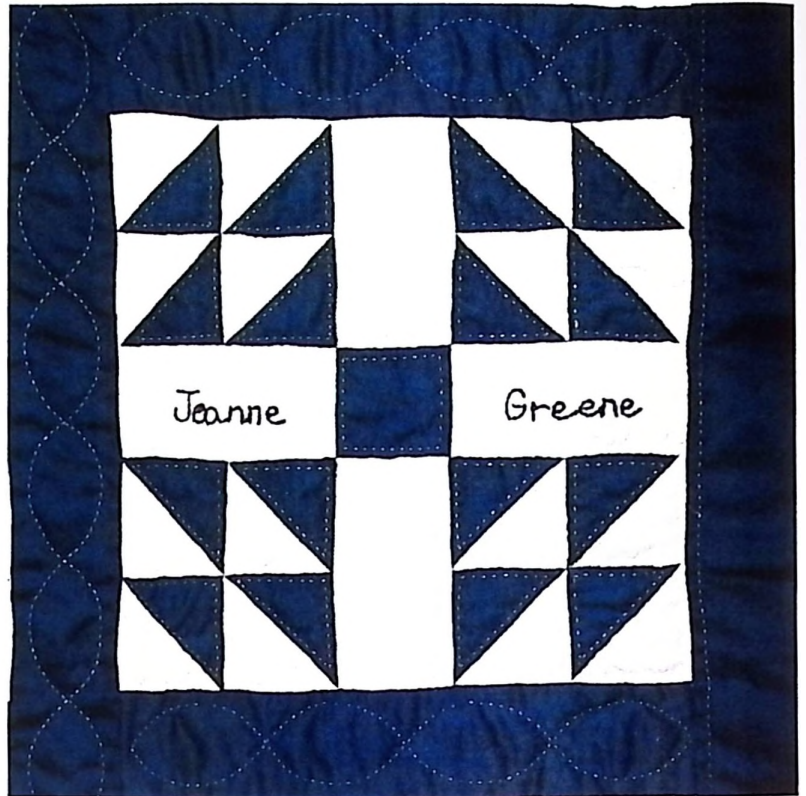
Margaret Bruckart Linda Harrington Barbara Dimock Edna Wheeler

Helen Kramer Joan Aldrich Madeline Arnold Jeanne Greene

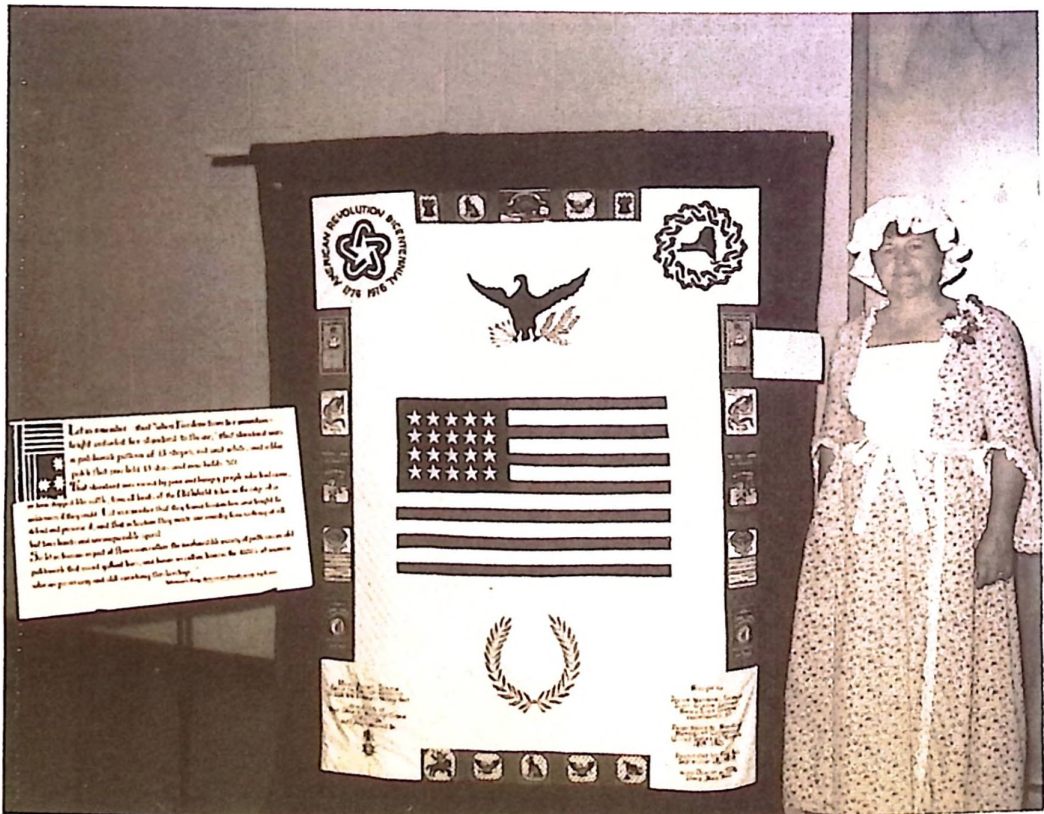
Carrie Hare Madeline Dunsmore Nina C. Linton Viola W. Crispell



Jeanne Greene



FOUNDER AND FIRST PRESIDENT



Jeanne with her bicentennial quilt

1976



Tompkins County

Quilter's
Guild

Founded November 12, 1974

<p>OBJECTS:</p> <p>To promote, encourage, support, and stimulate quilters, and quilting in Tompkins County. To provide education and fellowship for the members.</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP:</p> <p>Open to everyone with an interest in the art and craft of quilting. Guests may come to group sessions free of charge. Annual dues, \$10.00 per member.</p> <p>MEETINGS:</p> <p>At the lounge of the Women's Community Building 100 West Seneca Street Ithaca, New York 14850 Phone: 272-1247</p> <p>Every Tuesday, alternating afternoon (1-4p.m.) and evening (7-10p.m.) meetings-12 months a year.</p> <p>Special interest or special educational programs quarterly. Members may attend either or both sessions.</p> <p>All ages and both sexes are welcome at all meetings and special events.</p> <p>Photographers must obtain permission in advance from the chairman.</p> <p>A member of the City Federation of Women's Organizations of Ithaca, N.Y.</p>	<p>WAYS WE HELP EACH OTHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exchange patterns and ideas - Fabric swap - Book loans - Lending quilt tops together with backing, and batting, so they may be removed for quilting at home. - Quilting frames are available for use at the building. - Quilting - Practice quilt squares, instruction available for beginners, as well as the more experienced. <p>WAYS WE HELP OTHERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation and appraisal of quilts. - Occasional special instructional sessions. <p>FUTURE GOALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To operate as a true Guild with the advice, intermediates, and experienced quilters. - To quilt for people outside our own group. - Quilt shows 	<p>SPECIAL PROJECTS---1975</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quilting Bee- open to the public. April 19, 1975 • Making a Bicentennial Flag to fly at the Clinton House Ithaca, New York, during the Bicentennial year- 1976 • Designing, researching, and constructing a Tompkins County Bicentennial Quilt, featuring towns of the county. • Tour to Shelburne Museum, Shelburne, Vermont. June 3rd. and 4th 1975 • Participation in Federation plans for International Women's Year. 	<p>OFFICERS---1974-75</p> <p>President Mrs. Pearl Greene (Jeanne) 1478 Nancy Road Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 Phone: 607-272-6711</p> <p>Vice President Mrs. David Pilon (Mary) 466 Ridge Road Lansing, N.Y. 14882 Phone: 607-531-4797</p> <p>Secretary Miss Madeline Dunmore Devitt Apartments Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 Phone: 607-272-5470</p> <p>Treasurer Mrs. Angus Aldrich (Joan) 23 Van Dorn Road R.D.#6 Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 Phone: 607-273-9375</p> <p>Day Chairwomen Mrs. Roy Linton (Nina) R.D.#5 Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 Phone: 607-273-1580 Mrs. Jonathan Harrington (Linda) P.O. Box 175 Presville, N.Y. 11068 Phone: 607-838-3347</p> <p>Evening Chairwoman Mrs. William Hare (Carrie) R.D.#2 Trumansburg, N.Y. 14886</p>
--	---	---	---



Early 1975 Events



Pat Foltz director of the DeWitt Historical Society hold up one of the 15 nineteenth century quilts he had on display at the Historical Museum Tuesday evening for the Quilting Group led by Jean Greene. They met at the Museum to gather ideas for a Tompkins County quilt they are considering for the bi-centennial. Foltz spoke briefly on the importance of quilting in the last century. The quilt shown in the meadow lily design. Photo by Michael Parkhurst.—

Guild meeting at the History Center February 4, 1975
Ithaca Journal February 1975

Doris Hoover
"Contemporary Quilts and Their Cousins"
The guild's first sponsored speaker. April 16, 1975

Ithaca Journal
April 15, 1975

She Makes Contemporary Quilts

"Five years ago it was difficult to find quilting thread of any kind in the stores, but with the sudden new interest in making quilts, you can now find the thread in not only white but a number of other colors as well," says Mrs. Doris Hoover.

A teacher and workshop leader in quilting from Palo Alto Calif., she is in town only for a short time en route to Chattanooga, Tenn., to participate in the Southern Quilt Symposium. Mrs. Hoover has consented to give a lecture at 8 p.m. Wednesday in St. John's Episcopal Parish Hall sponsored by the Quilter's Guild. There will be an admission charge.

She participated in a workshop last weekend at Cortland State College and is staying with Mrs. Phyllis Dukes.

Mrs. Hoover believes the reason for the resurgence of interest in quilting is because so many people are torn from their roots and it is a reaching back to the past.

"And it gives people,— not only women but men a chance to use their creativeness effectively," she added.

Her work, pictures of which have appeared in six or more books, is usually contemporary

and used for wall hangings as well as bed quilts.

"I call it more of an art form than quilting, she said.

Her lecture entitled "Contemporary Quilts and their Cousins" will include a discussion of wall hangings and soft sculpture.

"The problem with soft sculpture is that it takes a long time to make, and then it is bulky to store," she said.

Mrs. Hoover has made quilts for her three daughters, two of whom are in college and the third one in junior high school.

She tries to make the quilts to suit their personalities.

"One they all seem to like is the one I call my 'pocket quilt for forgetful sleepers' that has 27 pockets in it," she said.

Graduating from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, as an art major, she turned to textile work about a dozen years ago and took up quilting and similar forms about six years ago. "Painting takes a big chunk of time and if you are traveling, it is not easy to get out the paints when you have a few minutes to spare," she said. "This way you can simply carry needle and thread in your bag and you'd be surprised how quickly things grow."

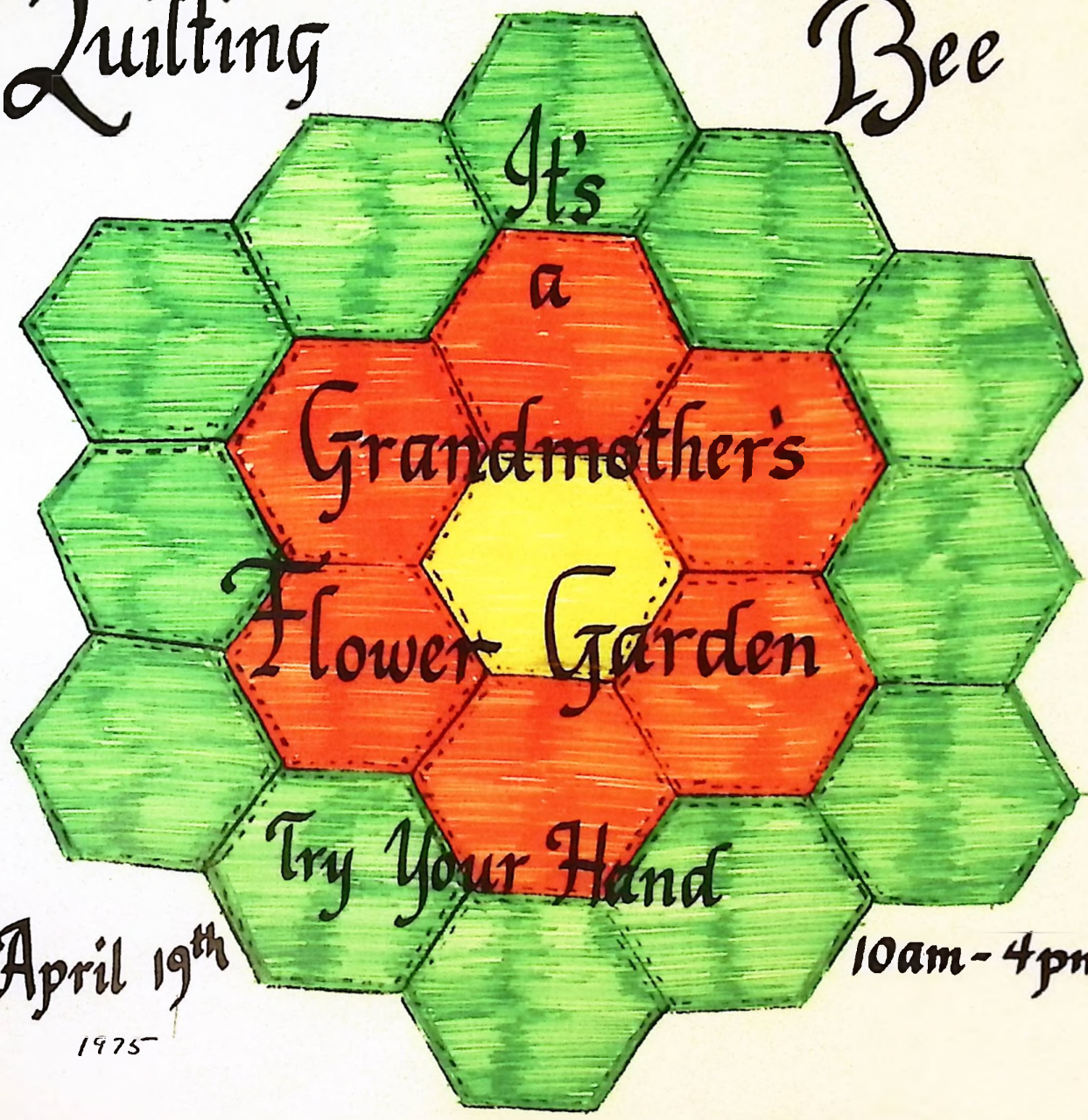


Mrs. Doris Hoover shows off one of her contemporary quilts, about which she will be lecturing Wednesday evening at St. John's Parish Hall. It is a combination of patchwork, applique and quilting.

Tompkins County Quilters' Guild
is having a

Quilting

Bee



April 19th
1975

10am - 4pm

Women's Community Building
Tickets for Quilt Raffle available 25¢ each - 5/\$1.00
Welcome beginners & experts !!!

QUILTING BEE



Jeanne Greene (center) and visitors

*Quilting Bee - open
to the public - Spring '75.
Quilting on Grandmother's
Flower Garden which
was raffled later that day.*



Herman and Helen Kramer



Raffle winner Ann Huntington (right)
Guild member Barbara Dimock (left) presenting the quilt.



Eloise Hadlock demonstrated
how to make cathedral window
pattern at the
February 18, 1975
guild meeting.

SHELburne MUSEUM



INCORPORATED

Founded in 1907 by Mr. and Mrs. J. Watson Webb

SHELburne, VERMONT

01482

Shelburne 985-3344
Area Code 802

Office of the Director

April 17, 1975

Mrs. Mearl Greene
1578 Danby Road
Ithaca, New York 14850

Dear Mrs. Greene:

This will acknowledge the receipt of your recent letter and confirm a reservation to visit the Museum on June 4 by your group from the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. We look forward with interest to your visit and we will do our best to make it a memorable experience.

Firm plans have been made for the quilt lecture. Mrs. Jessica Goss, a staff member who has been assigned some of the tasks formerly undertaken by Mrs. Nowlin, will narrate a slide presentation in an area adjacent to the quilt exhibit on the Museum grounds. Referring to the Museum brochure recently sent to you, the building is No. 25 called the Hat and Fragrance Unit. It is true that the Inn is only a short distance away and it is suggested that shortly after your arrival at the Inn, a telephone call to Mrs. Goss would insure that all is in order. Any further communication on the lecture could be addressed to her.

It was our decision last year not to operate the transportation vehicle, which we refer to as the "barge", mainly because of the gasoline shortage. We are taking another good hard look at the situation this year and because of an improvement in this area, the barge will be in operation, as needed on a day to day review and evaluation.

We note that it is your decision to use our Cafeteria for lunch. We serve a variety of sandwiches, hot dogs, hot soup, pies, cakes, ice cream and beverages. It proves satisfactory for the majority to tide them over during their visit. These services will be made available to your group. Adjacent to the Cafeteria is a large outdoor picnic area which is most pleasant when the weather cooperates.

We look forward to seeing you and your group on June 4 and if we can provide any further assistance, please feel free to call on us.

Very truly yours,

Joseph J. Quinn
Assistant Director

June 4-5, 1975

First trip organized for the guild. Included an overnight stay at the Shelburne Inn, a detailed tour of the quilt-coverlet exhibit, and a lecture by Jessica Goss. About 24 women were in the group.

Early Officers

Quilters Choose Officers

The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild has elected officers for 1976. They are: Jeanne Greene, president, Mrs. Roy Linton, secretary, Ethelyn Maxwell, historian, and Mrs. Angus Aldrich, treasurer.

Co-chairmen of the afternoon group are Mrs. Marin Arnold and Mrs. Herman Kramer. Mrs. Thomas Dumock and Mrs. William Hare are co-chairmen of the evening group.

The guild has just completed its first year of personal projects, field trips, and public quilting bees, demonstrations and displays. Members are currently preparing Tompkins County Bicentennial pillow kits which will be sold through the Bicentennial Commission.

They are also preparing for the Finger Lakes Quilt Exhibit to be held in August as part of Ithaca's Bicentennial celebration.

Membership in the Quilter's Guild is open to anyone with an interest in quilting.



Jeanne Greene

ITHACA JOURNAL Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1976

Quilters elect officers

The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild elected officers for the year. They are Barbara Dimock, president; Nina Linton, vice-president; Ethelyn Maxwell, secretary; Joan Aldrich, treasurer; Betty McKenzie and Barbara Dimock, night co-chairpersons and Helen Kramer and Madeline Arnold, afternoon co-chairpersons. The organization meets tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Women's Community Building.

4 ITHACA JOURNAL Monday, November 7, 1977

THE ITHACA JOURNAL

peck's people

By JOHN PECK

The picture today shows John Denck, a senior at Norwich University, receiving the ROTC Distinguished Military Student Award from Col. John J. Doody. John lives at 121 Update Road, Ithaca.

It's mind-boggling. Picture, if you can, a party with 6,000 guests, and featuring eight kinds of Irish whiskey. Top it off with a visit of a "Fenhouse Pet." and you have the makings for a bash to end all bashes.

That's what they say is going to happen Saturday night at 9 when the Cornell Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council will co-sponsor a "Winter Warmup" party. That title could be the understatement of the year.

There's only one place to hold a party that size, and that's in Barton Hall. That's where it will be.

There are going to be two bands. They say the purpose of the party is to foster a spirit of cooperation among all Cornell's fraternities and sororities. There are even going to be soft drinks.

In case the news may have escaped you, Barbara Dimock has been elected president of Tompkins County Quilters Guild. Betty McKenzie has been elected vice president, Lisa Turner, treasurer, and Ethelyn Maxwell, secretary. If you want information concerning meetings, call the Women's Community Building in Ithaca.

Ithaca Journal December 5, 1975

4 ITHACA JOURNAL Friday, November 10, 1978

THE ITHACA JOURNAL

for the record

peck's people

By JOHN PECK

The Garden Gate Club Committee held a workshop for the residents of McGraw House in Ithaca Wednesday. The committee helped the ladies with such skills as pruning, and talked about plant culture. It was sort of a plant "spruce up" operation.

The Tompkins County Dental Hygienists and Assistants Association are inviting dental auxiliary members to a discussion, "Aspects of Orthodontics," at 7:30 p.m. Monday at BOCES on Warren Road.

The speaker is Dr. Kenneth Lieberman.

Teens and adults should have fun at the Heritage Craft Resource Fair at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 15 at the Ag-Home and 4-H Center, 225 S. Fulton St.

There will be instruction in crewel embroidery, book binding, quilting, needlepoint, carving apple head dolls, felt ornaments, crochet squares and dipped candles.

Registrations are requested and may be made by calling the 4-H Office at 272-1421.

been elected to the Student Government Senate at the University of Lowell, Mass.

Deborah is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard H. Brown.

Martin Carpenter of Dryden, New York State Grange Prince, will be among "royalty" attending the 112th Annual Session of the National Grange in Denver, Colo. He will vie for the national title.

Also attending the national meeting Nov. 13-20 as New York State voting delegates will be Mr. and Mrs. Morris J. Halladay of Groton. Halladay is chaplain of the National Grange and Master of New York State Grange.

Lisa Turner has been elected president of the Tompkins County Quilters' Guild. Other officers elected are: vice president, Barbara Dimock; treasurer, Betty McKenzie and secretary, Ethelyn Maxwell.

Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit



In Bicentennial '76

Rally Round the Quilts

By NATALIE MILLER

One year from today one of the largest quilt collections ever assembled in New York State outside a museum will be on display at Ithaca High School. There will be some 600 quilts representing the 14 counties of the Finger Lakes plus neighboring Seneca County.

Along with the exhibit will be workshops quilting bees, booths with quilting materials, slide shows and lectures by persons prominent in the world of quilting.

The quilt exhibit to be held Aug. 21-27 was one of the reasons the State Bicentennial Commission selected Ithaca as a stopover for the Bicentennial Barge. Its visit (Aug. 20-21) will coincide with the show so that tourists expected from all over the country will be able to visit both events at the same time.

The Quilt Exhibit is being sponsored by the City Federation of Women's Organizations and the Tompkins County Quilters Guild with the assistance of the DeWitt Historical Society and other quilt enthusiasts.

It is actually the outgrowth of the ingenuity and enthusiasm of one person, Mrs. Jeanne Greene.

Always interested in crafts of any type, she became "enamored" with quilts when she saw an antique collection inherited by her sister from her husband's family about three years ago.

Since then she has read every book she could find on the subject, corresponded with professional seamstresses and traveled to museums with special quilt sections and examined herself in the L.I.C. art that has suddenly had a revival across the country.

"I was surprised to find there was no state or national quilters' guild in spite of the interest in quilting," said Jeanne.

Last summer as a member of the board of directors of the City Federation of Women's Organizations, she suggested the sponsor a "mass exhibit" of some 70 quilts at the Women's Community Building, just to see if there really is an interest in quilting and organizing a local quilting guild.

The response was phenomenal in spite of a low-keyed promotion of the exhibit. People clamored for the show to be held over. A large number signed up as interested in some sort of a guild.

"When we were looking for a Bicentennial project that would express the culture of our ancestors, it was not hard to choose quilting as an indigenous folk art of the women folk from revolutionary to modern times," said Mrs. Elva

Holman, president of the Federation board.

The fact that it is going to be on such a large scale is a tribute to co-director Jeanne Greene's organizational abilities and the enthusiasm of the board and the committee women working with her.

"In some a year might seem a long time," said Jeanne, "but actually for all we want to do, it is hardly time enough."

She has gathered around her as committee heads, professionals in art, photography, writing, crafts, quilting and other fields.

"They were eager to have a chance to share in something for the Bicentennial that will be on a professional scale," she explained.

The first steps have proven so impressive that the Tompkins County Bicentennial committee has donated \$1000 to help with the expenses.

Both the New York State Council of the Arts and the National Endowment for the Fine Arts have expressed a definite interest in assisting financially.

"But until we know definitely we can't go ahead with some of our more ambitious plans," said Mrs. Greene as she talked about what has already been done.

"If we get funding from them we hope to be able to produce a colored photograph book of the quilts in the show, possibly do a videotape and take slides of the workshops so they can be used later for schools, clubs and organizations. Surprisingly enough there are none available as far as we have been able to find out."

Meanwhile Mrs. Greene and her committees are not just waiting around for the funds to roll in. She works between four and six hours a day personally contacting and keeping track of every aspect of the exhibit — writing it all down in her big file book.

"When it was decided to include 14 counties, as we could have a cross section of the historical culture of the area," Mrs. Greene did not leave funding a quilts to chance.

She traveled to each of the different counties, explained to groups of interested women what the show was all about and invited them to participate. She had contacted numerous landmark societies, church cooperative extension — any lead she could find to get the women at one place.

"Everywhere we went we met with nothing but enthusiasm," she said.



Mrs. Jeanne Greene, chairman of the 15-county 76 Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit, works on her family history quilt as Daniel Marvin of the County Bicentennial Commission watches with approval. The Commission has recently given \$1,000 to help defray expenses for the exhibit.

One county said their ancestors had not gone in for quilting, but did dyeing instead.

"That's great," said Jeanne. "That tells something about the people and their way of life, and that is what we want."

When she found there were no standard rules for setting up a quilt show as this one, Jeanne wrote one for it.

"It was after I had visited the various counties, gotten their suggestions and then worked with our own Quilters' Guild," she said.

The Tompkins County Guild had been formed as a result of the mini-exhibit, and one of Jeanne's hopes is that quilts on state and national levels will be started as an outgrowth of the Bicentennial exhibit in '76.

There will be 60 quilts allowed from each county, which will include historical, contemporary, patriotic, crazy or novelty and crib-sized ones.

"And we shall have a special section for each county to have its very own Bicentennial quilt," she said.

Already several towns in the various counties have worked on quilts or have completed one.

"There will be one special section for quilts in a juried show," said Jeanne.

She explained that not all 600 quilts would be judged and it would be up to the counties to make the selections for their particular lists.

"After all, who can say whose grandmother sewed better than someone else's?" said Jeanne.

Again, finding no standard for judging quilts, she and her committee are gathering information from the experts and plan to run a workshop on judging quilts when they "get it all together."

"We hope this is one of the things we will be able to tape for other clubs in the future," she said, "and we want to have it so the committees in the counties can use it to make their selection for the exhibit."

Research is already going on for the Tompkins County quilt, which the Guild plans to make.

"You'd be surprised the local history we have come across to make the quilt," she said. "It is all part of the fun."

Jeanne should know. She is finishing a personal Bicentennial quilt of her own family.

"I started with the theme of one of my ancestors who was the congressman from New York responsible for having the law passed in 1818 stabilizing the number of stripes in the flag.

Also on her quilt will be listed her ancestors and those of her husband, a direct descendant of Major General Nathaniel Greene of Revolutionary War fame.

Whether it will be in the '76 exhibit she doesn't know.

"It will all depend how many we collect from Tompkins County and so far — I have seen some beauties," she said enthusiastically.

Also, with as much going on as Jeanne has, she may not have time to finish it.

In addition to the quilting exhibit, Jeanne has been helping her husband Merrill at the Ithaca Speech Clinic Camp, when he has been managing in the summers for the past 17 years, and she is co-chairman of the Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale.

But you can be sure that big black book about the quilting exhibit won't be far from her at any time.



A Community Affair

Mrs. Jeanne Green (right) shows Eleanor Beattie drawings of the Ithaca Clock and the Clinton House done by high school student Jim Powers, to be used for the Tompkins County Bicentennial Quilt (to be made by the Quilters Guild). Mrs. Beattie is treasurer of the Quilt Exhibit Committee.

Ithaca Journal
August 22, 1975



Photo by Barbara Parkhurst

Alice Hemenway, secretary of the Bicentennial Commission demonstrates how to make a pillow from a Tompkins County Nine-Star (one for each town) Bicentennial Pillow Kit. The kits are available through the DeWitt Historical Society in the Clinton House.

One of two pillow designs created by members of the guild for the Historical Society. The other was a white-on-white quilted eagle. February 1976

City Bicentennial Group Nixes 'Miss Ithaca'

By JANE MARCHAM
The American Revolution was celebrated the past month that every man is a king, every woman a queen.
With that statement, the Ithaca Bicentennial Commission objected Wednesday to plans for selection of a "Miss Ithaca" beauty queen this spring, prompted by members of the Tompkins County Bicentennial Commission.
The resolution, voted unanimously by 14 members of the city commission at their session Wednesday, voiced "opposition to any beauty contest for selection of any queen for the City of Ithaca."
It will be carried to a meeting of the county commission at 7:30 tonight at the Clinton House together with a plea for reconsideration of the beauty contest. Whether the county group has formally agreed to co-sponsor may be clarified at that time.

Charles Chestfield, chairman of the county commission, objected today to the idea his group was "co-sponsoring" the event. "We don't operate that way," he said.
The county commission has approved guidelines, he said, for the kind of events it deems appropriate. "If there is someone out in the community who wants to do

something that is appropriate—fine," Chestfield said.
In this case, a commercial establishment has agreed to take on the event, he said.

Plans to name Miss Ithaca, as part of the Miss America competition, were discussed Monday. Richard Hofer, manager of the local Holiday Inn, said the motel will sponsor "in conjunction with the Tompkins County Bicentennial Commission."

The city and county commissions, two separate bodies, have at times differed over bicentennial plans, though some members insist their relationship has been amicable.

Members of the city commission said in discussion Wednesday they were reacting both to appropriateness of the contest and assumption of the city's name.

Why they wanted to know, wasn't the queen to be called "Miss Tompkins County"? They said their phrases have been ringing, with negative reactions from acquaintances, ever since the contest was announced.

But they agreed to delete some of the stronger phrases in the original resolution, offered by Alderman Ethel Nichols, the commission secretary.



City's Bicentennial banner.

She stated that beauty pageants "glorify commercialism and extravagance," referred to "vulgar spectacles," and called on the county commission to "consider the true purpose and meaning of the American heritage."

"That's sort of strong language," said Florence Heard, another commission member, "though it's the kind of letter I

might have written last night."
Mrs. Nichols said her belief is that beauty contests capitalize on "the weakness and degradation of the female body, and put women down."

Said Alderman Nancy Meyer, "I'm the last to want a beauty contest. But it is in fact an American tradition. All I'm saying is, even though we personally have very strong feelings, Americans have different ways of expression."

"I'd say, there can be a queen," said Elizabeth McMillan, guardian of the Circle Greenway project, "but she's not to be crowned on all of us."

The spirit was a modified resolution, which nevertheless reflected unanimous objection.

In quieter moments, the commission reviewed plans for the July 4th celebration and events associated with the Greenway, a walkway to be connected around the city.

Accepted with thanks was a Bicentennial banner made by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. It was based on the city's bicentennial seal designed by Peter Kahn.

Applied on blankets by Barbara Urbeck, Carrie Hare and other members of the guild, the four-foot banner will be displayed in City Hall and other downtown locations this year.

Preparing for the Bicentennial 1976



Design for Bicentennial Banner

Quilting Exhibit Takes Shape

Several nationally known quilting experts will gather in Ithaca for activities connected with the exhibit of 600 quilts representing the Finger Lakes area.

Jean Ray Lantry, whose latest quilting designs appear in the February issue of "Family Circle," is coming from California to lead a workshop and to give a lecture.

Myron and Patsy Orlosky will lecture on the history and folklore of quilts. They wrote "Quilts in America."

Richard Holston, author of "The Heated Quilts: American Design Tradition," will discuss designs. He and his wife organized the 1974 quilt exhibit in the Whitney Museum in New York City.

Gene Mahler of "Once Upon A Quilt" fame will speak on "Expressions in Fabric."

The week's activities will include daily workshops for children, an adult workshop, quilting bee and slide show, plus booths for purchasing quilting materials. A workshop on judging quilts will be held at the Women's Community Building where 40 quilts made in the last five years will be on display.

The other 500 quilts will be at Ithaca High School and will be divided into such categories as antique, colonial, contemporary, patriotic, historical, novel and crib sized quilts.

Each county coordinator of the 13 counties participating will set dates to select the 40 quilts allowed per county. Ithacans with quilts of particular interest (those that tell a story of the region are particularly desired) should contact Mrs. Dan Martin of 115 Edgewood Ave. or Jeanne Greene at the Women's Community Building.

The event, which coincides with the visit of the State Bicentennial Barge, is sponsored by public funds in part from the State Council of the Arts in cooperation with the City Federation of Women's Organizations and the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Ithaca Journal February 14, 1976

5. A quilt bill...

To be, or not to be? What a silly question. To be, of course. To the quilting bee. That's where you can see some of the colorful coverlets which make up the Bicentennial Finger Lakes Quilt Exhibit, being held Saturday through Friday, Aug. 21, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Ithaca High School.
The quilting bee will be on throughout the event; the quilters will be stitching an Update New York Quilt.

Also available for viewing throughout the week will be a slide show and booths selling books and kits. There will also be a study center and displays of more than 500 quilts from 14 Central New York counties.

Among the quilts on display will be one made by members of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, which is made up of colorful blocks depicting various parts of the county.
Some of the quilts will be judged for cash prizes, and will be on display at the Women's Community Building, 120 W. Seneca St., during the same hours as the high school events.

At the Holiday Inn in Lansing there will be lectures by six writers on quilting, Monday through Thursday at 8 p.m. Series tickets are available at the Women's Community Building, where tickets may also be purchased for a series of children's workshops on quilting. These classes will take place in the Community Building from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays. The other activities are free.

Ithaca Journal August 21, 1976

Tompkins County Bicentennial Pillow Kit

TOMPKINS COUNTY BICENTENNIAL PILLOW KIT

Prepared by the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild



1976

Quilters Gather for 'Bee'

Ithaca Journal
June 15, 1976



Quilters gathered from many miles are, from left, Barbara Dimock from Tompkins County, Mary Helen Foster from Onondaga, Madeline Arnold and Jeanne Greene from Tompkins, Mary Anne Treble from Seneca, Pauline Dennison from Schuyler, Linda Halpin from Chemung, and Helen Shepard from Livingston County.

in age from 22 to 78, and the atmosphere convivial with nary a quibble over a stitch. "The spirit of the women working together has been great," said Mrs. Greene. The general conception of the quilt was devised by Mary Anne Treble of Seneca County Guilds or individual quilters from each county were asked to contribute a 12-inch square of their own design.

The Tompkins County block was designed by Daphne Sola and stitched by Barbara Dimock. Laurie Marvin embroidered the Tompkins name. The titles, in larger lettering, were embroidered in satin stitch by Ruth Thacker of Ithaca.

Scheduled Aug. 21-27 at Ithaca High School, the show will feature quilts submitted from the 14 counties.

"We've already chosen 600, all of them fit for a museum," Mrs. Greene said, "but we may be able to squeeze in a few more that are really exceptional."

Workshops will be taught by widely known quilting authorities at the Women's Community Building and Holiday Inn. Some of these are already filled, but there will also be lectures open to the public.

The Tompkins County chairman, who has information on the week's events, is Katherine Marvin of 117 Elmwood Ave. Cayuga's chairman is Jo Ann Wagner of Aurora, Seneca's is Mrs. John Knight of Interlaken, Schuyler's is Mrs. Arthur Dennison of Beaver Dams, and Tioga's are Mrs. George Alve of Spencer and Dorothy Kniernen of Berkshire.

By JANE MARCHAM
Many hands are making light work of a Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt, to serve as a centerpiece for the regional quilt show scheduled here in August.

Women from a dozen counties assembled Saturday at the Women's Community Building in Ithaca. With time out for lunch, in the manner of an old-time quilting bee, they stitched together the blocks they'd made for the quilt top.

"This is a dream of mine come true," said Jeanne Greene of 1578 Danby Rd., the show's energetic coordinator. "I think of America as a place where dreams can still come true, don't you?"

Mrs. Greene began dreaming of a regional Bicentennial quilt two years ago, when an initial quilt show was held here, and later she saw a quilt depicting scenes from the Hudson River Valley.

Represented on the Finger Lakes quilt will be 14 counties, their individual motifs surrounding a silhouette map of seven lakes.

Onondaga quilters appliqued a square that shows a boat plying the Erie Canal. Cortland County contributed a Canadian goose flying over the Montezuma marshes.

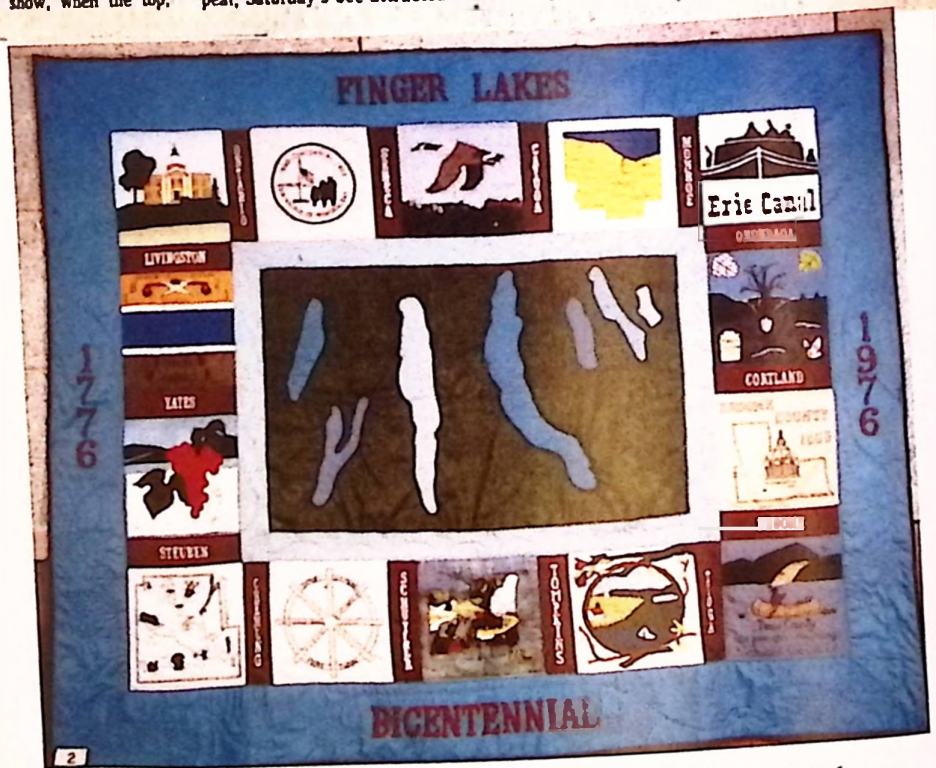
Cortland highlighted the maple sugar industry, Schuyler embroidered a landscape shaped to the county outline, Chemung featured

Samuel Clemens, a favorite son, and Tompkins quilters appliqued the lake and hills topped by the towers of Cornell and Ithaca College.

The final quilting will take place as a demonstration at the August show, when the top,

batting and backing will be stretched on a frame. At that time the center map will be couched to represent the area's topography.

Demonstrating quilting's new and broad appeal, Saturday's bee attracted women ranging



Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt - 1976



Tompkins County Block of the Finger Lakes
Bicentennial Quilt
Designed by Daphne Sola
Appliquéd by Barbara Dimock
County Name Embroidered by Laurie Marvin



Side border



Madeline Arnold quilting the Tompkins
County Bicentennial Quilt

Ithaca's bicentennial quilt exhibit gets national, international hand

DRYDEN — The Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit held in Ithaca recently has been acclaimed by leading quilters across the nation as one of the finest quilt shows ever held in the country.

Nearly 600 quilts were on display during the week-long event, including some of the finest crafted in the past two centuries, as well as examples of contemporary work.

Visitors attended the exhibit from 28 states and two foreign countries, according to Jeanne Greene, a member of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the woman responsible for the original exhibit concept.

The show, which was co-sponsored by the Quilter's Guild and the City Federation of Women's Organization, Inc. was billed as "a 15-county regional display of hundreds of the best of Upstate New York's historical, contemporary, novelty, and Bicentennial quilts."

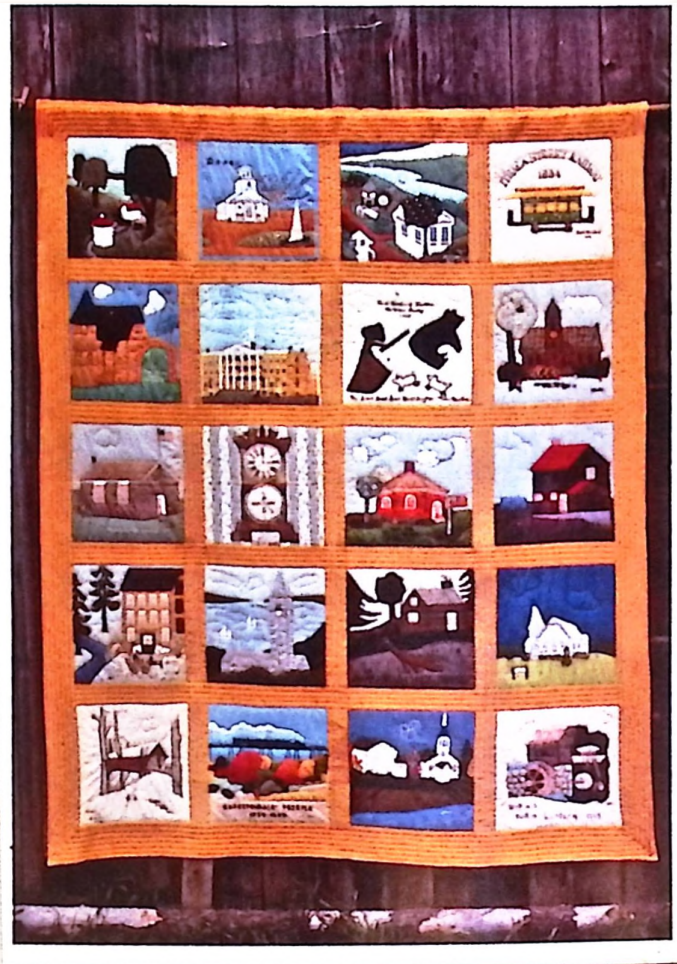
Quilts made in this area of the country, and those collected by area residents, were all visible at Ithaca High School from August 21-27. Workshops taught by textile and quilting authorities provided a learning opportunity for local quilters. Each workshop could have been filled five times over, according to Greene, because the registration was so quick.

A lecture for the general public was also held each evening at the Holiday Inn on Triphammer Road. Very well attended, the coordinator said each lecture drew over 200 people. Topics discussed included "History and Folklore of American Quilts," "Contemporary Piecework Design," and "Expressions in Fabric."

Another feature of the show was the display of a Bicentennial quilt designed and worked by quilters from each of the 15 counties participating in the exhibit. Many of these, including the Tompkins County quilt, are being donated to the historical societies that serve each county. It will thus act as a reminder of the Bicentennial year, Greene said, and document local history.

Tompkins County's Bicentennial Quilt was originally coordinated by Linda Harrington of McLean, who handled the phases of research and determination of blocks and the size and how they would fit in, according to Greene. After Harrington left the area to relocate out of state, Madeline Arnold assumed the role of coordinator, getting the final 10 blocks together. Twenty blocks were stitched, using applique and some embroidery. There are five rows of blocks, with four in each row.

The Bicentennial quilt will be donated to the DeWitt Historical Society by the Quilters Guild, according to Madeline Arnold. Persons wishing to view the quilt should contact the society.



The Tompkins County quilt represents the following historical scenes: ①—North Lansing in 1840, designed and stitched by Betty McKenzie; ②—Danby Church, 1826, now the Town Hall, designed and stitched by Eva Mae Musgrave; ③—Scenes of Jacksonville, past and present, with Cayuga Lake in background, designed by Nancy Dean and Daphne Sola and worked by Gene Housworth; ④—Ithaca Street Railway, 1884, designed and worked by Peg Bruckert.

The second row shows: ①—Grove Cemetery Chapel, 1893, designed and worked by Carrie Hare; ②—Clinton House, 1831, designed by James Powers, a senior at Ithaca High School, and worked by Jeanne Greene; ③—First settlers of Caroline, the widow Earsley and her 10 children, designed and worked by Nellie Hamilton, her great-great-granddaughter; ④—Southworth Library in Dryden, 1894, designed and worked by Mariellen Rumsey.

The third row includes: ①—Enfield Applegate Stone Schoolhouse, 1807, designed by Sarah Nivison and worked by Caroline Pyhtila; ②—Ithaca Calendar Clock, 1853, designed by James Power and worked by Eleanor Beattie; ③—Dryden Eight Square School, designed and worked by Carolee Schnurle; ④—Cooperage Mill in Malloryville, 1826, designed and worked by Helen Kramer, whose family lives on the property and is restoring the old firkin factory building.

In the fourth row are: ①—Old Mill at Enfield Falls, 1838, designed by Deena Wickstrom and worked by Gayle and Nina Lilton; ②—Cornell Library Tower, 1891, designed and worked by Madeline Dunsmore; ③—Jacob Yaple and Isacc Dumond, first settlers of Ithaca, 1795, designed by Deena Wickstrom and worked by Madeline Arnold; ④—Ellis Hollow Church, 1896, designed and worked by Barbara Demock.

The bottom row shows: ①—Newfield Covered Bridge, 1853, designed by Rusti Miller and worked by Albertine and Susan Miller; ②—Brooktonadale Trestle, 1894, designed and worked by Molly Adams; ③—Etna Community Scenes, designed and worked by Sharon Turecek; ④—Grist Mill in Lansing, 1795, designed and worked by Anne Davis.

*Tompkins County
Bicentennial Quilt
1976*

August 1976



BICENTENNIAL
FINGER LAKES
QUILT EXHIBIT

AUGUST 21-27, 1976
LECTURES, WORKSHOPS
SLIDE SHOW, QUILTING BEE
ITHACA SENIOR H.S., 12-9 P.M.
Workshops and lectures by advance registration at the
Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St.
Sponsors - City Fed. of Women's Org. & T. C. Quilters Gld.

6 ITHACA JOURNAL Wednesday, Aug. 11, 1976

Quilters—singly and by busloads—to arrive for exhibit

By JANE MARCHAM

"America has produced very few indigenous art forms in her young life—in fact, only two by any count: The blues and the patchwork quilt."

Whether or not you agree with author Beth Goldstein, whose provocative article appeared a year ago in the New York Times Magazine, you will have a chance to hear her say more about quilting here this month.

She and five other nationally known writers on the subject will speak in Ithaca on the week of Aug. 21-27, during the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit.

The exhibit itself will display 100 choice quilts from 14 Upstate counties, and is being feverishly anticipated in quilting circles. That's partly because of the lectures, workshops and other features seldom offered at such exhibitions.

"I still can't believe it," said Celine Mabler, one of the guest lecturers, to the three chairmen, Jeanne Greene of Ithaca. "It's everything a quilter could want, in one spot."

Some enthusiasts are coming from as far as California, Colorado and Calgary, and will spend their vacations here. Hundreds of quilters, organized by Extension agents, will come from New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The adult workshops are already searched to capacity. Mrs. Greene said Tuesday, with a mixture of pleasure

and regret. For one, 150 applicants had to be turned away. Space was limited, she stretched for authors, and now even those spots are taken.

But the daily workshops for children and the four-lecture series are still open. Mrs. Greene recommended, however, that residents of this area register for the workshops and buy lecture tickets in advance, to avoid disappointment. That can be done at the main desk of the Women's Community Building, where exhibit schedules also are available.

While the chairmen talked about the show to her Community Building office, volunteers inspected and recorded the source of quilts that are arriving this week from neighboring counties.

Little long-handled attachments, for hanging purposes, on the back of a colorful, contemporary star quilt from Ontario County. And Melina Hamilton did the same for a flag quilt made in 1900, loaned by the Ontario County Historical Society. They'll all be listed in the catalog being published for the show.

No one site in Ithaca was large enough for the regional show, which Mrs. Greene has been planning for two years, and the event is spreading.

The main display will be at Ithaca High School, on the gym and cafeteria, and will be open from noon to 8 p.m. Aug. 21-27. Slides borrowed from the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.,

New York's Department of Museum, and the Albany Art Center will be shown continuously in the school auditorium, until 7 p.m. each day.

Classrooms will house booths where books and kits can be bought. At a study center, quilters will be able to scout for patterns and make their own templates to take home.

In another room, a quilting bee will be in progress.

"And suppose you want to join a club but don't know where to find one, or you want to hire someone to make you a quilt," Mrs. Greene added. "We hope to have all the information there."

A judged section, with cash prizes for the best contemporary quilts from each county, will be displayed at the Women's Community Building, open during the same hours as the high school display. The children's workshops also will take place there, from 10 to 12:30 weekdays. Open to ages 4 to 17, they'll be different each day, and materials are included in the fee.

The lectures will take place at the Holiday Inn in Lansing, which can hold audiences of up to 100, and are scheduled at 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

"Those who hear the whole series will get an overall view, from traditional techniques to the most modern ones," said Mrs. Greene.

Monday's lecture by Myron and Patsy Olsky is in rapidly. The authors of "Quilts in America," per-

haps the most comprehensive book of its kind, they are from South Salem, N.Y., and will receive the literary and folklore of American quilts.

Celine Mabler's topic on Tuesday is "Depression in Fabric." An advance to the Smithsonian, she decorated the East Wing of the White House for President and Mrs. Ford at Christmas 1974, and her "Once Upon a Quilt" is a popular book on patchwork.

"She's into picture quilting," Mrs. Greene added, "and that's a big thing now."

Beth and Jeffrey Goldstein, who are quilt manufacturers and workshop leaders from New York City, will speak Wednesday on contemporary patchwork design. Her "Perfect Patchwork Primer" is a best-seller guidebook, and they are collaborating on "The Quilt Design Workbook" to be published this fall.

Jean Ray Laury's designs have been featured in national magazines—once landed on the February 1975 cover of Family Circle—and she will speak Thursday on "New Directions in Quilting." An adapter of the craft for well-hungry and other men, she is the author of many books on silhouettes, and will fly here from California.

Leading the children's workshops will be Betty Hannah Means. Owner of a craft shop at Webster, N.Y., which she manages with her husband and ten two-year-old children, she has taught quilting to all age groups.

The week seems a short, a quilter's paradise. But Mrs. Greene said she is leaping ahead the enthusiasm generated among quilters throughout Central New York, and grateful for the nearly 300 Ithaca volunteers who are helping to organize and staff the show.

"We're hoping for a big educational carryover," she said. "We want to get more people back into quilting, and encourage them to aim for high standards."



These books, found in local bookstores and the public library, are all by authors who will be speaking here this month at the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit. Photo by Larry Baum.



Jean Ray Laury: "Anyone can make a quilt," she says.



Celine Mabler: She decked the White House in patchwork one Christmas.



Betty Hannah Means: She'll teach children's workshops here.

Points and stars — *Ithaca Journal Aug. 17, 1976* Quilt judging is a patchwork of critique and appreciation

By JANE MARCHAM

"Not 100 per cent," Janet Church, a judge from South Otselic, was insisting. "You can't give anything that's handmade a score of 100 per cent."

"But this is beautiful," murmured Virginia Partridge, assistant curator of the Farmer's Museum at Cooperstown, as she examined the precise seams and satin-stitch lettering. "I wonder how many guilds in the country could do this."

Another close look, and the quilt from Corning, a sampler of piecework patterns in red, gold and blue on white, was docked a single point.

Scoring 99, it won first place in the Bicentennial-regional category for the upcoming Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Show, opening here on Saturday — which appears to represent the first Upstate Olympics of quilting.

The flaw? One could see where some of the final quilting

stitches, in white thread against navy blue, were overcast for fastening off. That, the judges decided, ought not to show.

Such were the meticulous standards, during judging the other day at the Women's Community Building, of a craft that tries women's souls, not to mention their needlework, sense of design, and eyesight.

Less than an hour later, the judges relented. They gave a perfect score of 100 to a quilt that topped the competition in the senior citizens' category.

Consisting of repeated medallions in red, white and blue, it had 3,666 pieces, many of them less than an inch across, and was made by Mrs. Phillip Bassett of Spencerport in Monroe County.

The Corning entry will be of special interest to quilters because it displays 17 patterns in an order that represents

American history — from "Lafayette's Orange Peel" to "Delectable Mountains." They're numbered and labeled as part of the design.

Mailed from Michigan, where the quilt reportedly took fourth place in the Bicentennial category of a national show, it was picked up Friday morning at the Corning post office and rushed, unopened, to Ithaca by car.

Arriving here just in time for the judging, the Corning quilters were relieved to unwrap the package and find the right quilt had been mailed, said Jeanne Greene, chairman of the Finger Lakes show.

The judges examined 57 contemporary quilts, submitted by needlewomen — and men, since some of the stitching was done by boys from area schools — in 14 counties. Those quilts will be displayed at the Women's Community Building, where judging workshops will take place.

Displayed at Ithaca High School will be the main show, consisting of more than 500 quilts made in Central New York during the past 200 years, including a few believed to date from the 18th century. At both locations the show opens at noon Saturday, and continues from noon to 9 p.m. through Aug. 27.

The variety to come was already visible in the relatively few quilts submitted for judging. One entry surrounded a silhouette of Canandaigua Lake with pictures of landmarks from neighboring counties.

There were embroidered, appliqued, and mostly one-color quilts, and "yo-yo" quilts, made of gathered rounds of fabric tacked together. And one was a landscape, with barn and animals that stood up in three dimensions.

"This job is not easy," said Nina Linton of Enfield, chairman of the judging panel. Her four panelists also included Nellie Hamilton, a quilt lecturer and long-time collector, and Eileen Rhonemus, who teaches quilting at Tompkins County BOCES.

They looked for such things as perfect "points", where the triangles and blocks join; a backside as well-made as the front; even stitching, and final quilting that enhances the effect; and careful binding, as well as the over-all quality of color and design.

Machine stitching was permissible — the Corning quilt, for example, combined machine and handwork, and the difference was almost undetectable — but it had to be precise and well-finished.

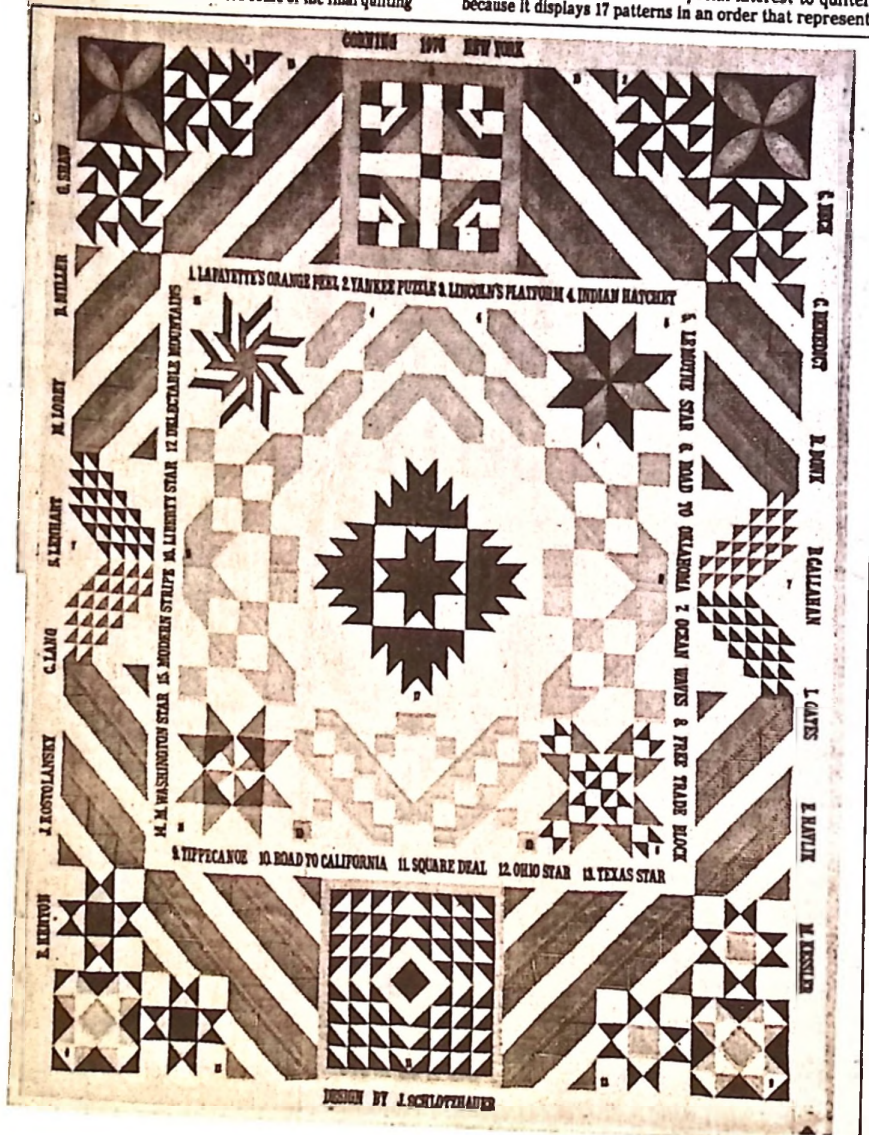
"You see, the pencil marks show here," Mrs. Linton added, "and one of the cardinal rules is that the marks shouldn't show," though pencil or chalk are nearly a must for guiding the quilter's needle.

The judges invented their own point systems and standards, and had a starting list of 21 items to consider. "As far as we know," Mrs. Linton said, "no criteria for judging quilts have been published anywhere so far." That may be one of the outcomes of the Finger Lakes show.

Mrs. Linton herself began quilting nearly 50 years ago. "I guess it's really only 47," she said, doing a bit of calculating. "My mother-in-law taught me, just after I was married."

Now her own daughter-in-law thinks she may take up the craft, but she had a few qualms as she watched the judges at work. "I was getting all fired up to make a quilt," said Myrtle Linton, "but after listening to this, I'm almost ashamed to start."

Jane Marcham is a Journal staffer.



A sampler of piece work patterns, this entry by the Corning Quilter's Guild won first prize in Bicentennial-regional quilts judged for the Finger Lakes Quilt Show. Names of the 14 needlewomen and a key to patterns are included in the design. Photo by George B. Clay.

LEISURE

takes you to

THE BARGE AND

A COUNTY WIDE FIREMEN'S EXPOSITION,
An Oxen Demonstration,
Ethnic Food,

THE TIOGA COUNTY REVOLUTIONARY BRIGADE,
FOLK DANCING, puppeteers,

THE Cayuga Chamber Orchestra — 7 p.m.

etcetera



AT TREMAN MARINA 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

AND

AT THE HANGAR

ART FILM FESTIVAL 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"A THURBER CARNIVAL" 8:15

ALSO A MASTER-apprentice Field Day

10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at STEWART PARK

CRAFT & TRADE DEMONSTRATIONS—live music & games—icogon rides!
square dancing! chicken barbecue! corn roast and lemonade! (Organized by
Learning Web)

[HOURLY FERRY FROM THE PARK TO TREMAN MARINA]

DO NOT FORGET THE

Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit At Ithaca High School

AND Finally

THE BICENTENNIAL PARADE

Downtown ITHACA at 2 p.m.

By JANE BROWN

A collection of perfect symmetry, nostalgic designs, scenes from the past, dramatic colors and the painstaking work that created 500 quilts — it's stunning, both in scope and quality.

The quilts, representing 14 Upstate counties, provide a glimpse of America's past through what has been called our most enduring art form.

Each quilt is a reminder of a time when recycling was a necessity. Our ancestors saved each small scrap of fabric from old dresses and curtains so that they might become the graceful flowers on a "best" quilt, or a friendly animal on a "crib" quilt.

The result: Quilts — historical, contemporary, novelty, patriotic Centennial and Bicentennial — are hung at Ithaca High School and the Women's Community Building each day from noon to 9 p.m. through Friday.

A wedding quilt — all white with an intricate trapunto design — is a show stopper in the historical collection.

A quilt believed to date from the early 18th century, handwoven with concentric circles and made from all homemade materials, wool, homespun and thread, is worn and discolored from use, too fragile even to clean.

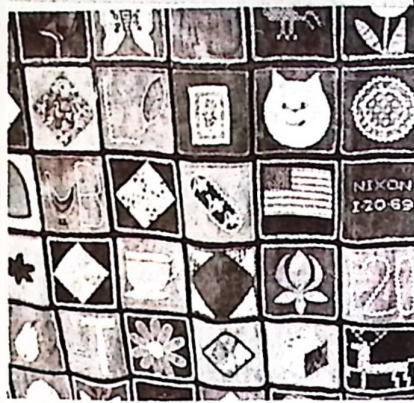
Quilters often referred to political events in the quilts. One shows a large figure of Zachary Taylor victorious in his presidential election. It was made in 1849 in Gorham. A more recent quilt refers to the Nixon presidency.

And there is ample evidence that it was a popular custom for the women left behind by the Civil War to make quilts for their men. A quilt from Scipio Center was made by the sweethearts and families of the men who went to war. Each man's name and regiment was inscribed in a block.

From Ontario County there is a quilt that was mentioned in a 18th century diary. The diary reveals that each man who went forth into war was given a quilted flag with the names of the women who made the quilt. These quilts apparently served a very practical purpose.

Three Centennial quilts in the collection are made of fabric that is dated 1876. The "crazy" quilt — a collection of brightly colored squares — is a romantic reminder of a time when people became betrothed, and when being jilted was a serious matter for a young girl. In the 19th century one young girl in Broome County plied away for a lost love. She spent the summer making squares for her hope chest until her hopes faded. Each square (they have never been put together) tells part of the story of a summer romance. She used owls to represent figures. In one square, an owl is sitting with a parasol and, in another, the maker fashioned an owl sitting on a branch, and embroidered somewhat sadly: "Where were you owl summer?"

Not all the stories of the show are old. Among the large



Even among contemporary quilters, politics is a popular theme.

collection of contemporary quilts is a whale that has been copyrighted — its creator plans to produce and sell kits featuring the friendly blue cotton whale.

Many quilts are gentle pastels, whimsical collages of animals and nursery-like objects. There is a reminder that quilt-making is an ideal thing for ladies-in-waiting, then and now.

The displays are museum-like — the work of Masa Kinoshita and Linda Long who devised the forms, and the Ithaca High School shop classes who made them.

And among the nicest effects of the show occurred some time ago when Lois O'Connor wrote an article about the quilt exhibit plans for the "American Agriculturist" which included a picture of an old quilt owned by a family in Broome County. A family in Dundee recognized it as being similar to one they had. It turns out that the quilts were made by the same person, and they had simply been lovingly preserved by two separate branches of the same family, who recently discovered each other.

The quilt exhibit also provides a chance for the pros in the quilting world to come together. People from all over the country have gathered to enjoy the exhibit. The highly skilled in quilting have come to share new ideas with each

other and with other quilters, whether they be novices or experts.

Some of the top names in quilting will give lectures each evening today through Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Myron and Patsy Orlofsky begin the series tonight with

finger lakes LIVING

a lecture on the history and folklore of American quilts. Anyone with an historical quilt can bring it to the lecture, and the Orlofskys will date it for them.

Celine Mahler, whose decorative skill was used in redecorating the east wing of the White House, will share the latest information on new fiber fillers and picture quilting on Tuesday. The following night, Beth Guibeam will share secrets of how she has successfully combined traditional designs and modern ideas. Finally, Jean Ray Laury will come from her home in California to give a slide lecture on quilting techniques. One of her quilts was on the cover of February's Family Circle magazine.

A series of workshops will be conducted at the Women's Community Building. Today through Wednesday the basics of quilting will be taught to beginners. And today through Friday youngsters will be able to learn quilting techniques — but, advises chairman Jeanne Greene, they should bring a bag lunch. Walk-ins will be accepted, but must be there by 10 a.m.

The week will be capped by a workshop where quilters from all over the country will gather to establish standards for judging quilts. According to Mrs. Greene, the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit has already devised a point system in preparing its juried exhibit, displayed at the Women's Community Building.

Visitors can also browse among the mini-shops where quilts, quilting supplies and a large selection of books are offered for sale.

For additional information about the quilting activities and displays, call the Women's Community Building, at 272-1247.

Jane Brown is Finger Lakes Living editor.

FINGER LAKES
BICENTENNIAL QUILT SHOW

MORMON QUILTS

AUGUST 21-27

12 NOON - 9 P.M.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BLDG.
CORNER SENECA & CAYUGA ST.



Photographing quilts for the show

*The City Federation of Women's Organization and
The Tompkins County Quilters Guild
cordially requests your presence with other special guests
for the Main Exhibit of the
Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit
Opening Ceremonies
to be held at the North Cayuga Street entrance of
Ithaca High School
11:45 A.M., Saturday, August 21, 1976
R.S.V.P.*

Mrs. Barbara Brock, 313 N. Aurora, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 (607)272-6286

Ribbon from the judged
section of the show.





Opening Ceremony Ithaca High School August 21, 1976

Chairwoman Jeanne Greene with
county legislator Sam McNeil
listens to opening remarks.



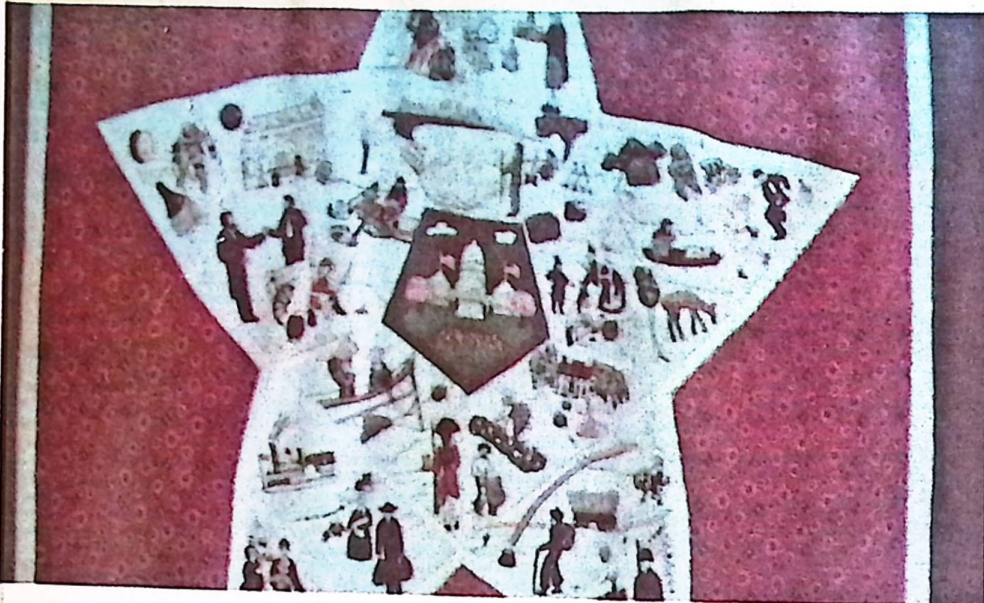


Historical quilts section in the high school gym.



Contemporary quilts section in the high school cafeteria.

Quilts...



Notes from all over about quilts which have been entered in the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit:

...
 "The Tompkins County Quilters Guild began making plans to make a historical quilt of the county ... In June 1975. Ideas were discussed about which historical sites we were going to put into the quilt. We planned on using muslin squares, which were eventually phased out, and people used materials that they thought would look well with the particular squares they were doing.

"Much thought went into the drawing of the designs. Some of the people had their designs done by artists ... Others struggled through enlarging their pictures from post cards or photographs. Many of these people were novices; a few had done quite a bit of quilting..."

...
 "...A group of Mormon women of the Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in the Ithaca ward have made an applique quilt ... One block shows the boy prophet, Joseph Smith, kneeling in prayer in the Sacred Grove. Another shows the Angel Moroni delivering the golden plates to Joseph ... The quilt will be exhibited in various church centers but will return to Ithaca to remain in the Ithaca group..."

...
 "This 'flag' quilt of red, white and blue cotton is unique to Ontario County. The five-point star pattern is comprised of 35 stars around a large central star on which is printed in ink, 'Three rousing cheers for the Union,' it was made in 1861. Each star has the autograph of those who worked on it..."

...
 "Joan Wagner of Aurora made a list of the objectives she had in getting women of the village together to make a quilt ... (1) create an interest in quilting in the village ... (2) inspire those who participated to continue to quilt on their own ... (3) create a special remembrance of the village for the Bicentennial ... (4) turn the hearts of the women to their ancestors and an appreciation of the skills and crafts of the past..."

Those, and other stories are the kind you will come across at this week's quilt exhibit.

Fifteen counties altogether are involved; the project is sponsored by the City Federation of Women's Organizations and the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Quilts will be on display starting today, noon to 9 p.m. at Ithaca High School, and a quilting bee, slide show and workshops are part of the week-long affair. There is an admission charge at the high school.

The way it was organized was this. Each of the participating counties was eligible to enter 40 quilts, quilts — no matter where made — that were owned by a resident of the county. These quilts will be shown in a county display area at the exhibit.

In addition, new quilts made by communities or groups have been added to the show.

A centerpiece of the display is the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt. Designed by a Seneca County woman, Mary Anne Treble, the quilt is composed of blocks designed and made by individual counties, surrounding a center map of the lakes in the region.

The Tompkins County block depicts Cayuga Lake and the surrounding hills; Cortland's design highlights the maple sugar industry; Chemung features Mark Twain; Onondaga, the Erie Canal; Cayuga, a Canada goose flying over the Montezuma marshes.

The final quilting on this project will be done during the exhibition as a demonstration — the top, batting and

Continued...

...as a fabric of our past

...continued

backing will be stretched on a frame and the center map quilted.

What do you look for in examining a quilt?

Well, besides the quilting technique look for a story in a lot of these that are on display.

Example: In its quilt, the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild studied area towns and chose representatives for each quilt block. Accordingly, each section has its own story, Alice Hemenway of the DeWitt Historical Society reports.

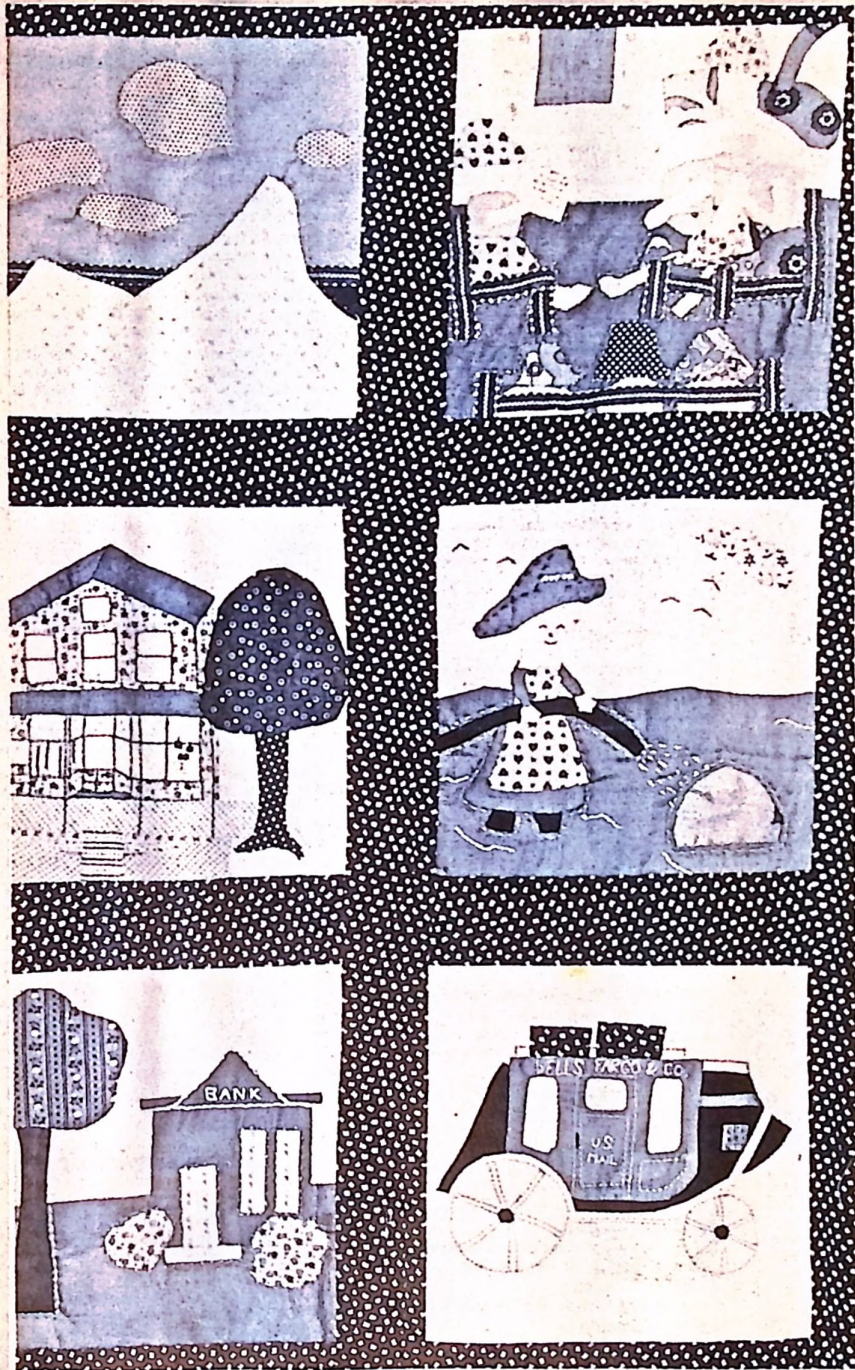
The Jacksonville block, for instance, designed by Nancy Dean and Daphne Sola, and worked by Gene Housworth, Maureen Huebsch, and Florence Graham, "is a collage of scenes past and present. The corner roof is the

VanOrder Hotel/Tavern originally built by John Mattison in 1812. It was torn down in 1848 and a gas station built. The large building is the Old Colonial Church, built in 1827 and moved to its present site in 1898. The church still has its 1856 bell and 1873 organ. In the background is Cayuga Lake, with Milliken Station smoke stacks on the shore line

Each section has such a history.

And, so, of course, do quilts in general.

Those who were busy working this week at the Women's Community Building, organizing the quilt exhibit and photographing the entries and making last-minute plans, saw plenty of echoes of what Joan Wagner meant when she said such a project "turns the heart ... to ancestors and an appreciation of the skills and crafts of the past."



The pictures

The four pictures on these pages are the product of many hours of work by Finger Lakes area quilters. On the opposite page at the top is a portion of the Ellis Hollow Quilt. Below is a representation of the Enfield Mill. The block is part of the Tompkins County Quilt and was designed by Deena Wickstrom and stitched by Gayle and Nina Linton. On this page at left is a section of the Aurora Historical Quilt, designed by Joan Wagner of Aurora. Below is Madeline Arnold, of Enfield, a member of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, standing next to the Tompkins County Quilt. She supervised assembly of the Tompkins Quilt. Photos by Flora Gross.



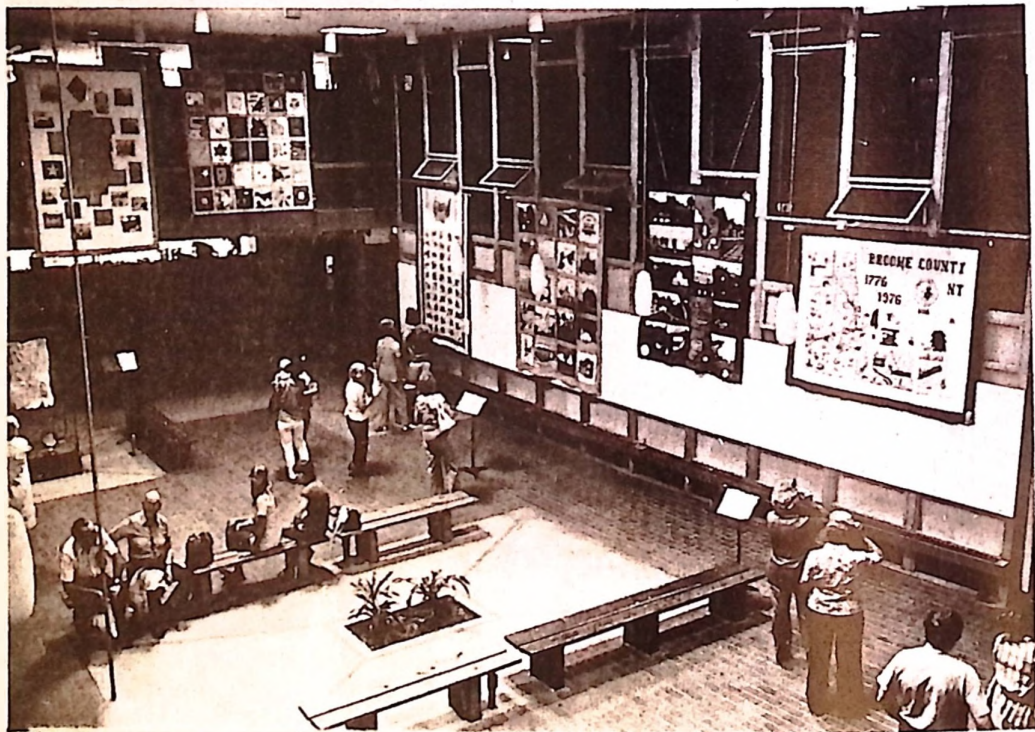
LEISURE, The Ithaca Journal, August 21, 1976—Page 7



Clare Scholes of Ithaca works on a baby quilt in one of the demonstrations.

Quilts, quilts, and more quilts

Photos by Larry Baum

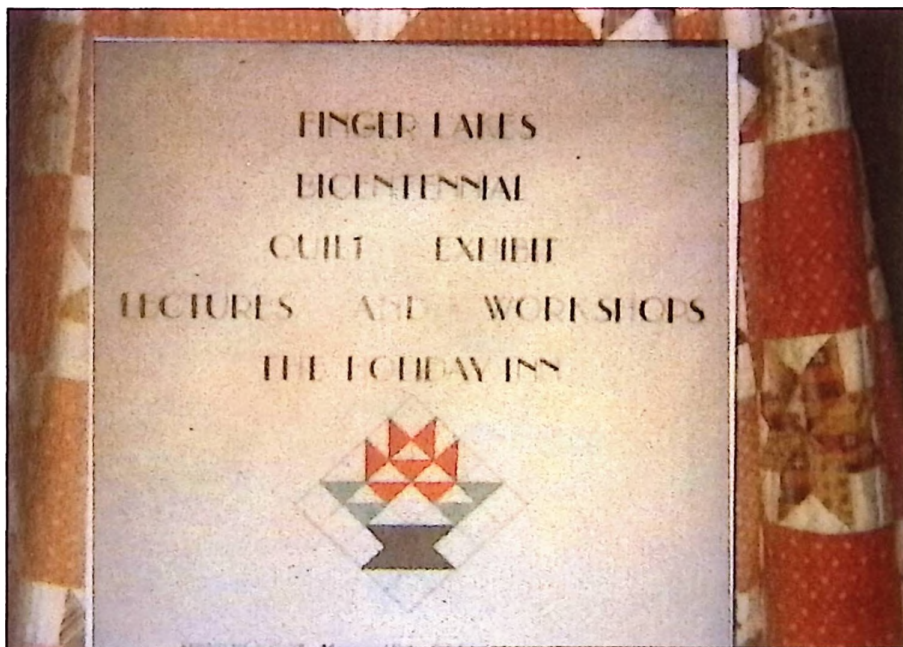


In the Hall of the Counties, people enjoy discovering the quilt presented by their very own neighbors to the Finger Lakes exhibit.



Quilting Bee at the Show

Each day of the show representatives from the participating counties were responsible for demonstrating quilting at the ongoing quilting bee. Carrie Hare (in white) represents Tompkins County.



You are cordially invited to the BOOK BARN exhibit at the Holiday Inn to

MEET THE AUTHORS

| Myron & Patsy Orlofsky
Monday Evening, August 23

| Celine Mahler
Tuesday, August 24
(Afternoon & Evening)

| Beth Gutcheon
Wednesday, August 25
(Afternoon & Evening)

| Jean Ray Laury
Thursday, August 26
(Afternoon & Evening)

Please check the BOOK BARN Poster at Ithaca High School and/or the Holiday Inn for exact times.

BOOK BARN P. O. BOX 256
AVON, CONNECTICUT 06001
Bldg G - Room 103



Myron and Patsy Orlofsky lecture at the Holiday Inn

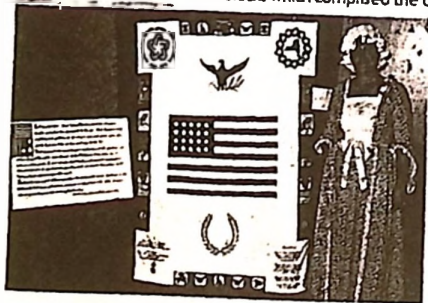


FINGER LAKES TOPICS

A monthly newsletter published by The Finger Lakes Association
 Conrad T. Tunney
 Executive Director
 309 Lake Street, Penn Yan, N. Y. 14527
 Phone: 315-536-6621

QUILTING - Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit outstanding.

No single special event inspired more participation during the Bicentennial than the Finger Lakes Quilting exhibit. 14 counties were involved and the blocks which comprised the quilts were not only symbolic of the spirit of '76, but together



Jeanne Greene and her Symbolic Bicentennial Quilt

related the fascinating history of our region since the time of the Revolution. Our most sincere congratulations to Jeanne Greene, chairman of the project, and all those who made it possible. It was an outstanding effort and a superb accomplishment. We are hopeful the closing of the exhibit will not be the end but rather the start of a tradition that will rekindle interest in this type of work so that residents and visitors alike to the Lakes Country can enjoy this exquisite craftsmanship. It is a fitting sidenote to know one of Mrs. Greene's ancestors - Congressman Peter Wendover (New York, 1814-1821) sponsored the flag Act of 1818 in the Congress of the United States which stabilized the number of stripes in the American flag at 13.

Myron Orlofsky, 48, Lawyer, Co-Author Of a Book on Quilts

Myron Orlofsky, a lawyer, author and art collector who from 1965 to 1975 was deputy director of the White Plains Urban Renewal Agency, died of a heart attack Tuesday after giving a lecture on quilts at Cornell University. He was 48 years old.

Mr. Orlofsky was stricken in an automobile in Deposit, N.Y., en route to his home in South Salem, N.Y.

He and his wife, the former Patricia Kulp, were co-authors of a book, "Quilts in America," published in 1974 by McGraw-Hill, and had been giving a series of talks on quilts at the university and other places. Their book was an alternate selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club.

The Orlofskys, who have been described as two of the foremost collectors of antique quilts in this country, wrote the book after seven years of research.

They were also collectors of contemporary art works, which have been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim and the Whitney Museums, the Art Institute of Chicago and other institutions in this country and in Europe.

Born in White Plains, Mr. Orlofsky received a B.A. degree at Stanford University in 1949 and his law degree in 1951 at the Harvard Law School. He practiced law in New York City and White Plains before joining the Urban Renewal Agency, and resumed his practice afterward. He specialized in real-estate law.

Survivors, besides his wife, include a brother, Seymour, and a sister, Roslyn Orlofsky Newman.

The funeral service will be held at 11 A.M. today at the Hebrew Institute, 20 Greenridge Road, White Plains.

New York Times
 August 26, 1976

Greetings Quilters:

Doesn't seem possible the busy fall season is here again. Hope you will all plan your schedule so that Quilters' Guild meetings have top priority!

Didn't you enjoy the Quilt Exhibit in August no matter how hard you worked for it? And didn't you get so inspired that you want to start a new one or finish the one you have started?

There are still loose ends related to the exhibit that have to be attended to but not too many. Jeanne is working on the slide kits while away. The Judging Workshop is still being in session in that letters are being received from those who attended with the aim of arriving at some definite criteria for judging quilts and setting up categories for competitive classes.

Because of irregularity of meeting dates during the summer when so many things had to be done our fall schedule didn't arrive at the building in time so that our Sept. and Oct. meeting dates are a little mixed up. In order to save money it was decided that both groups would meet on the same day after we get on a regular schedule.

P.M. GROUP MEETS FROM 1:00 - 4:00 P.M.
EVENING GROUP MEETS FROM 7:30 - 10:00 P.M.

- Sept. 14 - P.M. group met
- Sept. 21 - Evening group met
- Sept. 28 - P.M. and Evening groups will meet
- Oct. 19 - Annual Meeting - both groups will meet at 7:30 P.M.
- Nov. 16 - P.M. and Evening groups will meet
- Nov. 20 - P.M. and Evening groups will meet

30

New officers will be elected at the annual meeting and then further meeting dates will be announced.

A nominating committee has been selected to prepare a slate of officers for 1977 and will be presented at the Annual meeting.

DUES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING - OCT.19

Happy quilting *Alina*

Joan Aldrich and Barbara Dimock are organizing our participation in the Cornell Plantation Fall-In in Oct. Why not volunteer to go quilt and have fun?



A few examples of blocks that members contributed to a block collection of patterns and templates for members to borrow. These blocks could also then be used as educational exhibits.

Sunbonnet Sue quilt Quilted 1976-77



*This Apple
Torte is just
a small way
to say, "Thank
you" for all
the hours
you have
spent on our
quilt.
We so appreciate
it.*

CURRENT GIFT ENCLOSURES

Current, Inc.
COLORADO SPRING COLORADO
Came, Sew Metzger

September 20, 1977

Dear Quilter,

There are a few upcoming events that I thought I should bring to your attention. First of all, because of small attendance at afternoon meetings, it has been decided to have only evening meetings for the months of September and October. This will only be a temporary change until we get member response to it. All members are invited to the evening meetings beginning at 7:30 P.M. Dates are Sept. 27, Oct. 11, and Oct. 25.

The September 27th meeting will coincide with the Women's Federation Meeting, so rather than having Quilters Guild that evening, all members are invited to attend the Federation Meeting. Linda Halpin, an outstanding quilter and quilting teacher will be presenting a "History of Quilts". It should be an excellent presentation and something no one will want to miss.

The Annual Cornell Plantations Fall-In will be held Sun., Oct. 2nd, from 1:00-4:30 P.M. Lisa Turner and Susan Yee have volunteered to organize this year's Quilting Bee. They do need the support of all Guild members, however, to make it a success. Please try to give at least one hour that afternoon to come and quilt. It is a way we can encourage new members and have alot of fun as well. Last year the weather was beautiful and those of us who attended had a wonderful time talking with many enthusiastic visitors. The rain date is Oct. 9.

Lastly, the Annual Election of Officers is fast approaching us. The date is tentatively set for Oct. 25. We will need 3 people to volunteer as a nominating committee. It will probably require only one meeting to establish a slate of officers. Be thinking of possible nominees to suggest to the committee.

Barbara Dimock

March 27, 1973

Dear Quilter,

I just want to remind you of a few things which are coming up. We have missed some of our old friends at meetings over the winter, and I do hope that with Spring on the way, you will come back and join us.

First of all, the Hinckley Foundation Museum, 410 E. Seneca St., is sponsoring a quilt talk entitled "Flower Quilts - A Show and Tell". This will be held on Sunday, April 2nd at 3:00 P.M. Beth Mulbelland will conduct the talk which is open to the public. Anyone who has quilts with floral motifs is asked to bring them to show. Do try to attend as it promises to be an interesting event. The talk will probably run about an hour.

Our meetings for April and May will be April 4th and 18th and May 2nd and 16th. The April 18th meeting will be a business meeting so it will be evening only. I urge all of you to try to attend that meeting so we can see what the group has been doing and what it will be doing next. Lisa Turner will be collecting dues from any members who haven't paid yet for the year. The other three meetings will be both afternoon and evening.

THE SUNBONNET SUE QUILT HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO ITS CASE

I hope to see many of you at the Hinckley on April 2nd, but if you can't make it, then bring your projects and ideas to our regular meeting on April 4th.

See you then,

Barbara Dimock

Plantations' Fall-In rescheduled

Cornell Plantations seventh annual Fall-In has been rescheduled to take place Sunday afternoon. The event was postponed due to rain last weekend.

Throughout the county, people have been getting ready for this unique autumn celebration which will take place on the arboretum grounds. Although the Fall-In is sponsored by Cornell Plantations, the local botanic garden and arboretum, the events that highlight the afternoon represent the contribution of time and effort from many community groups and individuals.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild, whose members come from throughout the area, will be having an old-fashioned quilting bee. Visitors who sew are welcome to set a spell and contribute some stitches. From the county S.P.C.A. will come an exhibit on pets, including puppies and kittens to hold. The Varna Boy Scouts have constructed a rope monkey bridge to challenge the abilities and courage of older children.

Organizations from the city of Ithaca always participate in the Fall-In. The local branch of the American Wine Society will be explaining the art and science of home wine-making. The Ithaca Ballet, directed by Gwen Reid, will give two performances of the Mother Goose Suite on Sunday afternoon. And the Ithaca Women's Garden Club will sponsor a bake sale to support the Fall-In.

Individuals also contribute to make the Fall-In successful. Bill Valavanis, who is a master of the Japanese art of training dwarf potted trees, travels from Rochester with his Bonsai exhibit. Steve Kraus, a blacksmith from Jacksonville, will shoe a horse. Dora and Ed Swart of Ithaca will demonstrate weaving and breaking flax. And Dr. L. H. MacDaniels will present an exhibit on edible wild nuts, will give advice on growing such trees, and have black walnuts and filberts to crack and sample.

As in past years, clubs from Cornell will present many interesting displays and exhibits. The Pre-Vet Society will have baby animals; Jordani Club will have snakes; and the Floriculture Club will explain and demonstrate the fine points of bulb culture.

'Spring Fever!'

Seven Ithaca area craft guilds and individuals will participate in the second annual "Spring Fever!" sale and exhibit from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St.

Sponsored by the Black Sheep Handspinners Guild, the event will feature juried crafts, live demonstrations of bobbin lace-making, spinning, weaving, quilting, and other crafts. Suzanne Hokanson, a rag rug weaver from Marathon who specializes in wool rugs, will be this year's featured craftsman. In addition to the Black Sheep Handspinners, guilds participating include the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, Ithaca Potters Guild, Seven Valley Weavers Guild, Flying Geese, and the Ithaca Textile Arts Guild. A number of individual craftsmen will also be exhibiting.

There will be a small admission charged.

IJ 3/5/82

Community Events

October 30, 1984

Dear Ms. Mackenzie,

Just a note to thank you for participating in our Pioneer Festival. The day was a real success thanks to your group and all the other volunteers who made it possible. I enjoyed seeing your quilts, and watching you sewing.

I hope you felt the day was worthwhile - I sure did! Please pass my thanks and appreciation along to your friends who also helped with the Guild's Exhibit.

Hope to have you again next year,

Thanks -
Sandy Gilbert



SPRING FEVER!

4th Annual

Craft Guilds' Sale & Exhibit

March 3 & 4, 1984

11 am to 4:30 pm

Patricia Novarr, Weaver
Featured Craftsperson

Juried, quality crafts by individuals & area guilds:
Black Sheep Handspinners Guild, Finger Lakes Lace Guild,
Flying Geese, Ithaca Potters Guild, Ithaca Textile Arts
Guild, Tompkins County Quilters Guild,
Sponsored by: Seven Valley Weavers Guild

Admission - 50¢
Women's Community Bldg., 100 W. Seneca St., Ithaca, N.Y.

Ithaca Journal October 1977

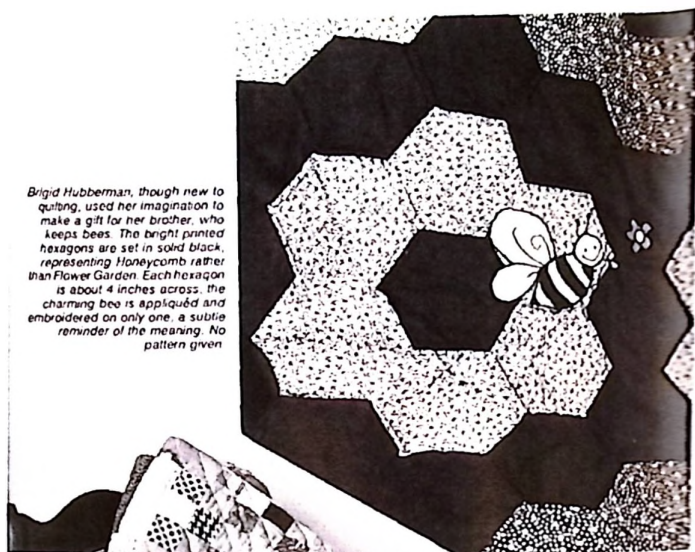
Guild Members in the News

Beth Mulholland (left)
Brigid Hubberman (below)

Lady's Circle Patchwork Quilts
No. 17:1979



How many times have you thrown your bathrobe over your feet on a cold night? Beth Mulholland designed an answer to the cold-feet problem, a "foot quilt" as long as the bed is wide and about 30 inches deep. Beth was also exploring the idea of applique over piecing successfully breaking the stiff geometric design with an appliquéd padded rose. See p. 39
© Elizabeth Mulholland, 1979



Brigid Hubberman, though new to quilting, used her imagination to make a gift for her brother, who keeps bees. The bright printed hexagons are set in solid black, representing Honeycomb rather than Flower Garden. Each hexagon is about 4 inches across; the charming bee is appliquéd and embroidered on only one, a subtle reminder of the meaning. No pattern given.



Jane Portierwait helps New York State Fair judge Nina C. Linton decide the quality of a quilt.

..... 5/22/78
Suddenly there seems to be a lot going on in Ulster County. Nina Linton of the Ithaca Quilters Guild has been selected as a judge in the juried division of a 10-day quilt exposition. It all brings back memories of the Quilt Exhibit that was one of the highlights of the Bicentennial. Linton was coordinator of that show and she also conducted a workshop on judging criteria. The criteria of that workshop which attracted people from all the country have been adopted nationally. Among the shows Linton has judged is one at the New York State Fair, just last year.

Anyone who wants to enter a quilt for exhibit in the Ulster County Quilt Exposition should submit entry forms by April 1. For more information contact Wiltwyck Quilters Guild, UPO Box 3100, Kingston, N.Y. 12401.

The time has come to take that old quilt off the bed and hang it on the wall. It could be a masterpiece. I wouldn't know a masterpiecework if I saw one. But a lot of people around here would.

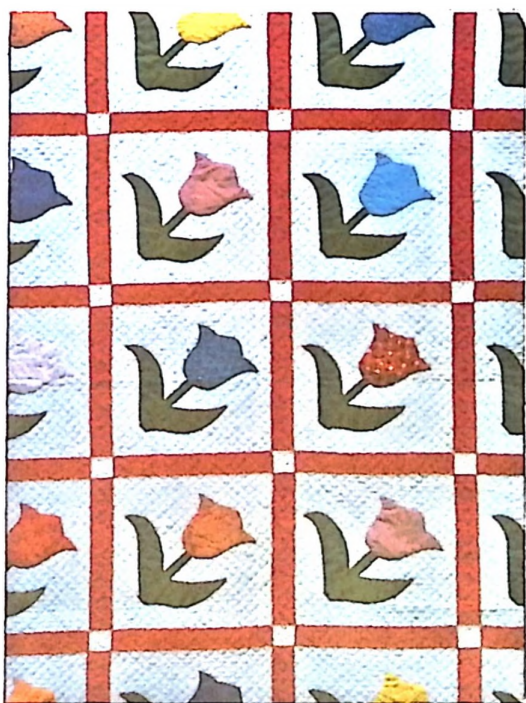
—JANE BROWN

Nina Linton
1978

Album quilt - 1977. Made for →
 Mrs. Joseph Joffrey, by TCQG.
 Top sent to Amish women in
 Conewango Valley, NY to quilt.



↑ Ocean Waves - 1981. Ruffled
 among members of the Guild.
 Won by Margie Beacewell -
 1983.



← Tulip - 1979 →

Ruffled among
 members of the
 Guild. Won by
 Sally Kern - 1983



1979

Nine Patch - 1976.
Laffled and won by
Cynthia Gratton
June 2, 1979



*Sthace
Journal
Jan. 24, 1979*

Quilting bee

Cecilia Griffin, Madeline Arnold, Lisa Turner, Barbara Dimock, Betty MacKenzie and Margie Bracewell, members of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, work together on a quilt at the Women's Community Building Tuesday afternoon.

Photo by Mark Kelley

Contemporary quilters: These artists are as sociable as they are creative

By ELIZABETH NEUFFER

Picture a group of women buddled around a quilt, thimbles flashing, fingers moving, laughing and gossiping, piecing odds and ends of fabric into intricate designs.

It sounds like a scene from Colonial America, but it happens every other Tuesday at the Women's Community Building, when the Tompkins County Quilters Guild gathers for a quilting bee.

The group brings together two generations of women, ranging in ages from 25-70, who aim to revive a long-standing American tradition: as one group member commented, "Quilting is again becoming a vital art."

Since its founding in 1974, the

Quilters Guild has produced seven monumental quilts. One, comprised of commemorative squares depicting the Clinton House, Cornell University, Ellis Hollow Church, and other local landmarks, hangs in the Dewitt Historical Society.

Another of the group's major efforts was the Finger Lakes Quilt, which was made for the Bicentennial. Local counties each donated a representative square and the quilt was assembled during a large, open quilting bee. The group has shown many of their quilts at the Cornell Fall-In and the Tompkins County Fair. According to Lisa Turner, president of the Guild, the Guild's future includes participating in the Textile Show to be held at the

Hinckley Museum here June 11 - August 26.

Originally conceived for practical purposes, quilts became increasingly elaborate and were often brought out on only ceremonial occasions. Today quilting is an accepted form of graphic art.

The Guild's members enjoy quilting for both its social and creative aspects. Meeting together and trading ideas, designs and stories is half of the fun, they said. Some concentrate on the intricacies of traditional patterns — the double wedding ring, bear's paw, flying geese, Burgoyne surrounded — while others experiment with more modern innovations, such as mixing two types of fabric.

Many of the women have been quilting all their lives — inspired by their great grandmothers before them — while others are quilting for the first time. The group finds their intimacy to be as great a reward as their finished quilts.

Modern material and sewing machines have changed the nature of quilting. One member commented, "With modern materials there is more latitude for different techniques."

Nonetheless, much of the work must still be done by hand, and Guild members estimated that it would take at least two weeks of working full-time to make a finished quilt. As the Guild meets intermittently, it can take up to six months for them to complete a quilt.

Ithaca Festival

June 1979

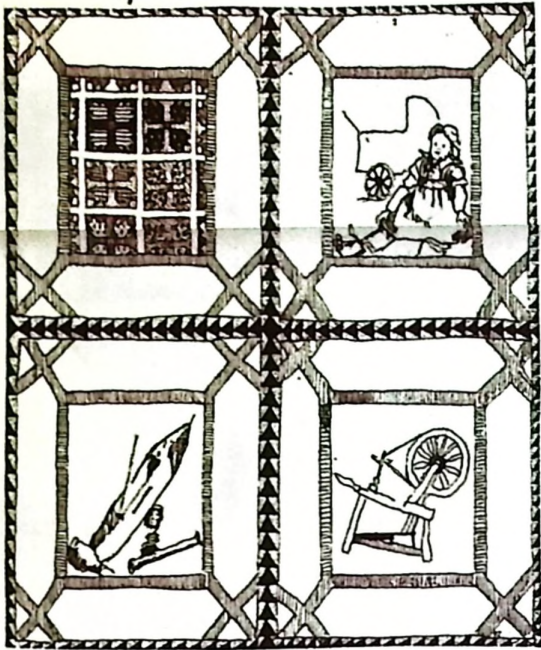


Lisa Turner quilting on Tulip quilt and Betty MacKenzie quilting on lap frame demonstrate quilting at the Ithaca Festival.

Tompkins County Quilters Guild

The Tompkins County Quilters' Guild has been encouraging quilters since 1974. The Guild meets every other Tuesday at the Women's Community Building in afternoon and evening sessions. Experienced and novice quilters and interested visitors are welcome. Guild members exchange patterns, books, fabric scraps, and advice. The Guild occasionally sponsors lessons and demonstrations. Members often bring their own projects to share at meetings, and there is usually a quilt in progress on a frame. The Guild has made a banner, a bicentennial quilt, a Grandmother's Flower Guild's demonstration at the Festival. For more information, contact Lisa Turner, president of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

textilework
an exhibit at the
Hinckley Foundation Museum
410 East Seneca Street



presented by the Museum & the

Tompkins County Quilters' Guild

Ithaca Textile Arts Guild

Black Sheep Handspinners' Guild

Seven Valley Weavers' Guild

June 16 - September 8, 1979

Members demonstrate quilting during the Hinckley Exhibit.





Photo by Mark Damon

Although quilting is an art enjoying renewed popularity, there is also a movement afoot to increase public awareness of the historical significance of quilts made in the past. Elizabeth Mulholland helped organize a group of quilt appreciators, and will give a public talk on the subject Sunday. See story on Page 5.

Thursday, March 13, 1980, ITHACA JOURNAL

1980

Flying Geese

Quilt Study and Appreciation Group started in 1980.

Quilt appreciation is an art itself



Photo by Mark Damon

Elizabeth Mulholland and one of the quilts she will discuss at the DeWitt Historical Society.

By TAMAR ASHDO SHERMAN
Journal Writer

A unique quilting group has formed in Tompkins County, with an aim not to make quilts but to study and enjoy American quilts made by others.

Group members are considering calling themselves Delectable Mountains or Flying Geese, both names of quilt motifs that are significant for this area.

Elizabeth Mulholland, one of the organizers and a former curator of the DeWitt Historical Society, will offer a history of American quilts, at 2 p.m. Sunday, in Ithaca's Clinton House. People are encouraged to bring examples of quilts, both old and new, to share.

Quilts can be divided into two main subgroups, according to Mulholland, a quilter herself and a collector of quilts. There are whole cloth quilts, made of one piece with a decorative top, and there are patchwork quilts which can be either pieced, appliqued or folded into three-dimensional designs.

"The pieced and appliqued quilts are the great American ones," Mulholland said, noting these were made for both practical purposes and aesthetics.

"Many women who were artistically inclined would make that top decorative with whatever means they had," she said. "They couldn't help themselves."

There are hundreds of names of quilt motifs which changed as people migrated west. The lily became the mountain lily, then the prairie lily, she said.

Quilts can often be dated by the fabrics used and by the sewing techniques. Chintz quilts were made in the late 1700s and are extremely valuable, even in dilapidated condition, according to Mulholland. The quilters used the remnants of chintz draperies when they wore out. Women cut out the flowers and pheasants and stuffed and stitched them onto quilts.

Stenciled quilts were made in the 1800s through 1850s in much the same way as stenciled wallpaper; paint was pressed from the stencil onto the fabric and touched up wherever necessary. These quilts, too, are hard to come by and are quite valuable, Mulholland noted.

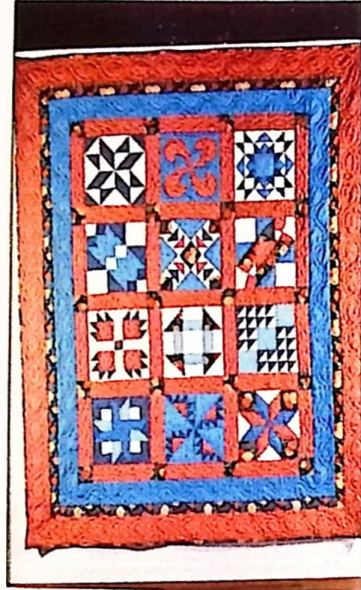
Crazy quilts were popular in the Victorian era, when quilters sewed together small pieces of cloth in almost random patterns.

There was a quilt revival during the Depression. "The fabrics are easily recognizable. They were pastels and plain fabrics," Mulholland said.

She is seeking an example of Hawaiian quilts for her talk. These have a large design cut from a single piece of cloth and appliqued to the quilt top. Colors are usually brighter than other quilts and rarely have white as a background.

Future sessions are scheduled for April 30, when Jean Nowack of West Danby will talk about "A family's quilt inventory," and for May 18, on flower quilts.

*Itasca Festival - June, 1980 →
Debbie Moore (left)
Barbara Long (right)*



← Sampler - 1980. Won by Joyce Morgenroth

Nov. 6, 1980

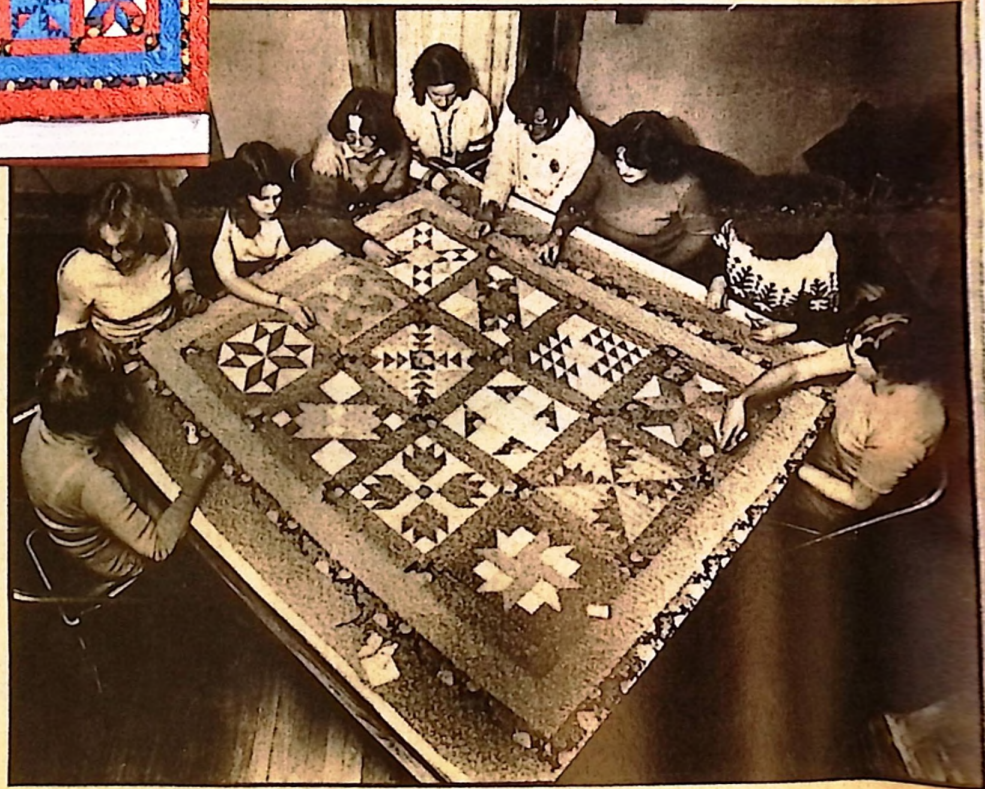


Photo by Peter Schuler

Quilting Bee

Members of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild put finishing touches on the sampler quilt to be displayed and later awarded, this weekend at J.W. Rhodes department store in Pyramid Mall. Each of the quilt's 12 blocks was made by one member, according to the pattern of her choice. Those patterns will also be on display, as will an entire exhibit of quilts. Money from the project goes toward the 1981 quilt show.



TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD

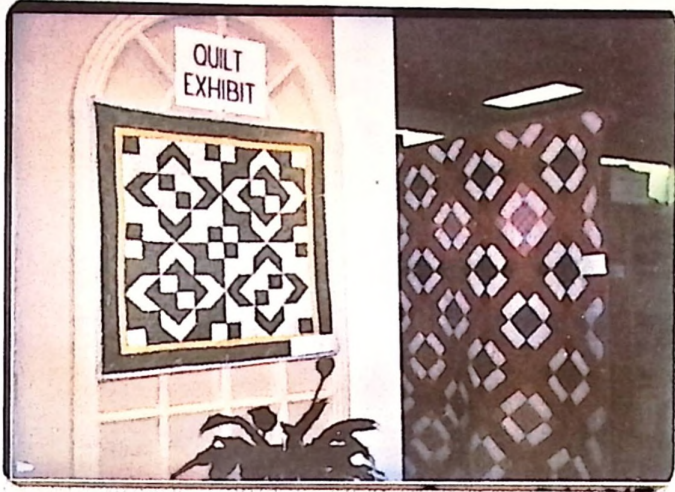
QUILT

Drawing At 8:00 pm Women's Community Bldg.
December 9, 1980

Donation: 50¢ each
or 5 for \$2.00

Need Not Be Present To Win

1981



↑ J. W. Rhodes Dept. Store Exhibit
Nov. 7-9, 1980.

↓ At the frame - Pat Valerio + Barbara Long



↑ Lisa's Choice - 1981.
Baby gift for Lisa Turner.



↑ Quilting Bee - March, 1981.
Jo Ann's Fabrics - basting and
quilting demonstration with
Beckie Wiley's (left-green sweater)
Friendship quilt.



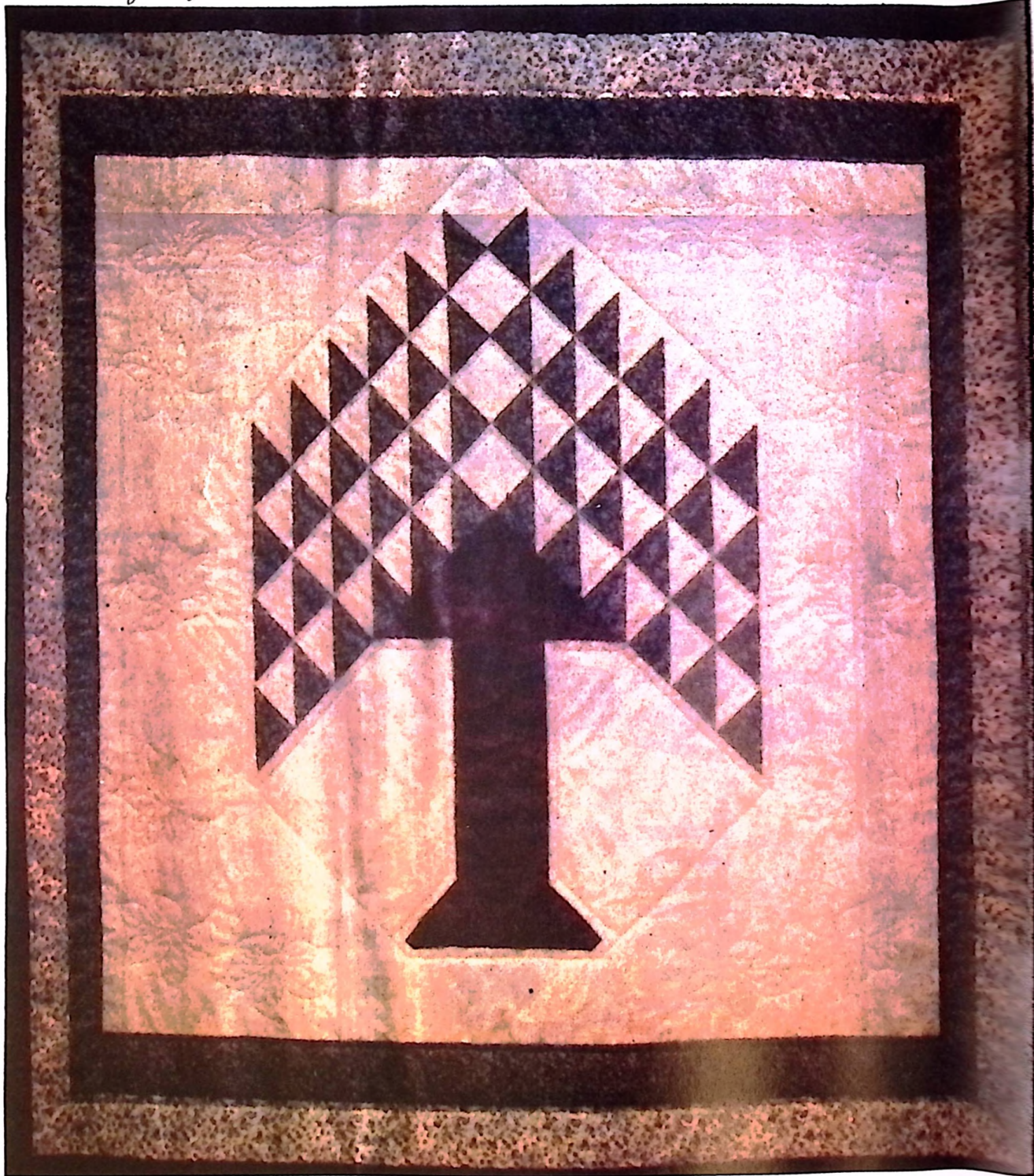
The Ithaca Journal

LEISURE

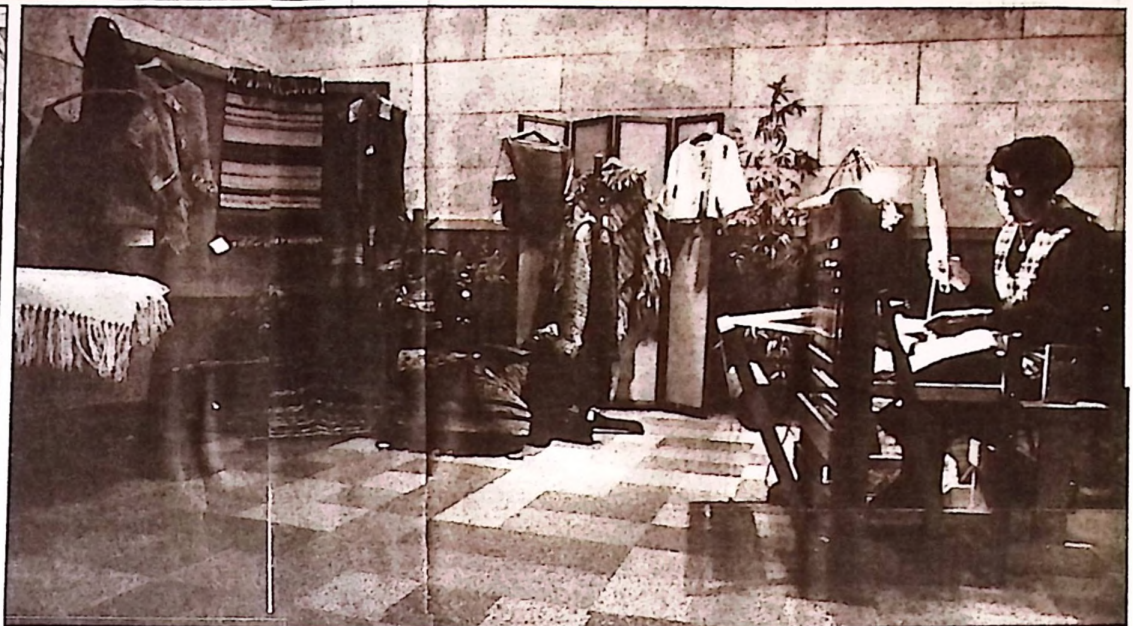
Friday, March 20, 1981

TV Preview and Calendar

Tree of Life wall hanging - 1980. Becca Metzger.



Eight: A quilt made by Margie Bracewell of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. Below: Marcia Steve, president of the Black Sheep Hand-spinners Guild, shows Katherine Houpt how to turn sheep wool into yarn.



Above: Mildred Scudder, of 49 German Cross Road, demonstrates the use of a floor loom. Right: A quilt made by Ruth Him of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

the ART of INSULATION

It was an exhibit and sale of fine crafts to "warm the body and cheer the soul." The title of the show was "Insulation." Recently held at the Women's Community Building, it was sponsored by the Ithaca Textile Arts Guild.

Represented were the Black Sheep Hand-

spinners Guild, Flying Geese (Quilt Admiration Society of Ithaca), Seven Valley Weavers Guild, Ithaca Textile Arts Guild, Textile Heritage Project and Tompkins County Quilters Guild. Exhibits of textiles, weaving, macrame and pottery were among the juried crafts.

Jurors were Ellen Biesdorf and Jean MacLean.

Demonstrations in tube quilting, by Edith Johnston; batik, by Mary Anne Treble; machine quilting, by Christine Heber; and insulating window covers, by Regina Hector were held during the two-day show.



March, 1981

Photographs by John Metzger
Ithaca Journal Staff



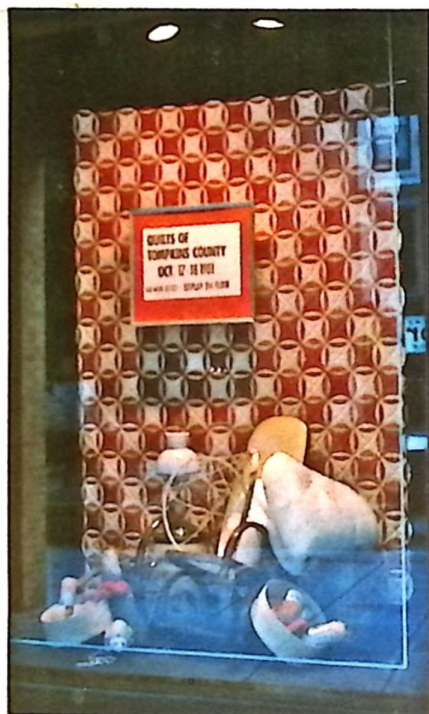
Ruth Him (back) and Pat Valerio (front) talk with visitor at guild's exhibit at the Insulation Show.



Ithaca Festival - June, 1981



↑ Eleanor Abbott, Cece Griffen, Betty MacKenzie
 ← Eleanor Abbott, Judi Heath



← *Window Display*
Rothschild's
October, 1981

*Rob Peter to Ray Paul
 pieced and quilted by
 Eleanor Abbott.*

Hanging the Show

High ladder expert →
Margie Bracewell
Lisa Turner (sewing
on a sleeve) and
↓ Cece Griffen



/SYRACUSE POST-STANDARD SATURDAY, OCT. 17, 1981

Quilts on Display

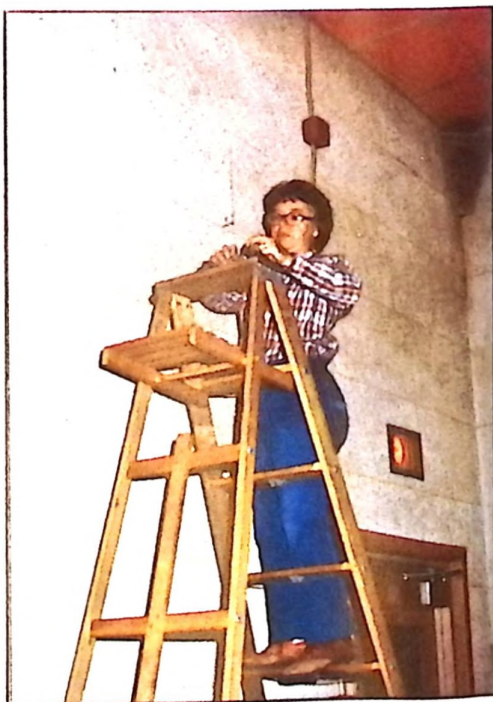
The Tompkins County Quilters' Guild will present "Quilts of Tompkins County" today and Sunday at the Women's Community Building, Seneca and Cayuga streets, Ithaca. Admission is \$1 and the hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More than 100 antique and contemporary quilts will be displayed throughout the show.

Six quilts were made by one woman, Belle Frank, the grandmother of William Frank of Ithaca. She was born in Missouri in 1875 and made nearly 100 quilts before she died at the age of 97.

The rich hues of a lifetime's accumulation of silk neckties assembled with very old construction techniques give the quilt made by Lisa Turner an unusual appearance.

The youngest quilter represented in the show is Alison Ford, 8.



at Pechschel's - October 1981

QUILTS ON DISPLAY

WINDOW... Robbing Peter to Pay Paul
Pieced and quilted by Eleanor Abbott, Brooktondale, N.Y.
\$550 Seriously interested persons may call-539-6128.

ESCALATOR WELL... Double Wedding Ring
Collection of Barbara Phillips Long, Ithaca, N.Y.
Pieced and quilted by her great aunt in 1928.

Tuberose and Pikake (Hawaiian Quilt)
Appliqued and quilted by Anne Howard Myers, Honolulu,
Hawaii. B.S. 1936 College of Home Economics at Cornell
University, in honor of her 1981 class reunion.

The Pikake is a Hawaiian plant similar to jasmine; the
design of this quilt is original.

VESTIBULE(STORE BANK AREA)...WALL HANGING...BABY QUILT...SAMPLE
BLOCKS.

Valentines quilt...

Owned by Billy Turner, age 2, North Lansing, N.Y.
Pieced and quilted by his mother and grandmother. The
quilt is a Jean Ray Laury design.

Prarie Star hanging...

Pieced and quilted by Eleanor Abbott, Brooktondale, N.Y.

Quilters guild block collection...sample blocks from projects
made by the guild and its members.

Top, left to right... Oak Leaf and Reel, Sunbonnet Sue, Album block,
Little Scotty, Album block, Pine Tree, Miniature 9-patch,
Tulip applique.

Second Row... Road to California, Grandmothers Flower Garden,
Chinese Lantern, Pinwheel, Flying Geese, -----, Road
to Sacramento.

Case... Broken Dishes, -----, Dresden Plate, Bears Paw.

An artistic innovation in quiltmaking

Contemporary Quilts by Kay Parker, published by the Crossing Press, Trumansburg, N.Y.
By ROBERTA SPERLING

No quiltmaker worth her salt would ever deny that quiltmaking is an art. Taking pieces of fabric and putting them together to form a design takes skill, patience, an eye for color and an eye for proportion.

Anyone who's seen drawings by M.C. Escher would be struck with the designs and the artistic illusions he's created with his pen.

Kay Parker was struck by both and went about combining them. Her quilts are based on M.C. Escher drawings and, in the words of a well-established quiltmaker, "Kay's charting new ground in the quilting art."

Her book, *Contemporary Quilts*, explains how to go about making an Escher quilt, as well as how to create your own, original designs.

The book is clearly written, with illustrations that appropriately detail the work involved in quiltmaking.

Key writes that her book is an "exploration of a type of mosaic design known in geometry as a 'tessellation.' A tessellation is made of continuous or interlocking and repeating shapes that cover a flat surface without overlapping or leaving gaps." She credits traditional quilt patterns with this type of design and then takes off into descriptions of quilts she's made based on this type of Escher design, and explains how it was done.

There are designs for quilts of interlocking sea turtles, reptiles, birds, errows, crooked wrenches,



Quilters Viola Bensa, left, and Denise Lee, right, flank quilter/author Kay Parker. All three will have quilts on display at the show this weekend in the Women's Community Building in Ithaca. Key, whose quilt of interlocking geese can be seen above, will also be on hand to autograph her book, *Contemporary Quilts*. —Photo by Roberta Sperling

as well as a mosaic design and a design which includes both whales and snail—Kay's own creation.

The descriptions of how to make each kind of quilt include how much fabric one should buy to make a crib size quilt, or a double or queen size cover. She

explains how to make borders and even gives suggestions for pieced borders and quilting patterns. She makes it look easy. She also makes it look like fun.

There are color illustrations of quilts that Kay has made which are inspirational, and those who'd like

an even closer look can come to the Tompkins County Quilters Guild Quilt Show this weekend and see the actual pieces on display.

Key, too will be on hand to sell and autograph her book and answer questions about her work.

It's a good chance to get a look at what can be done and how to do it.

The quilt show will be held in the Women's Community Building, Seneca and Cayuga Streets in Ithaca. Admission is \$1 and the doors

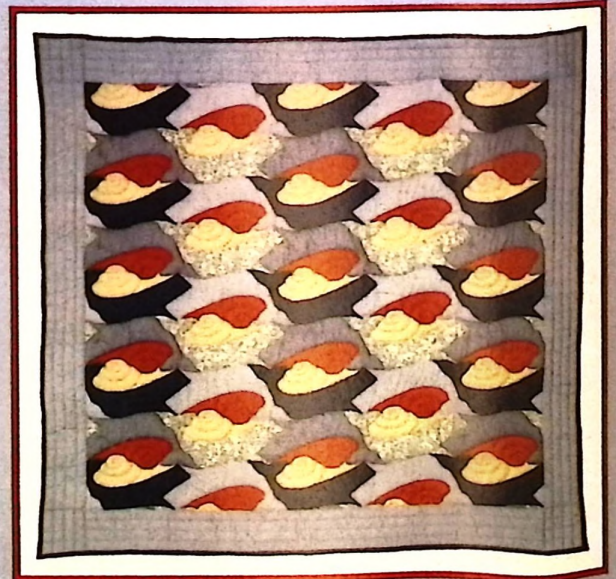
continued on page 15

continued from page 12

will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Besides Key's work, over 100 quilts will be on display, including heirloom quilts. There'll be a drawing for a wall hanging. A resource room sponsored by Flying Geese: The Quilt Administration Society of Ithaca will be available for those who have questions about quilts.

Contemporary Quilts

Original Patterns Based on the Drawings of M.C. Escher



Ray Parker

Tompkins County Quilters Guild

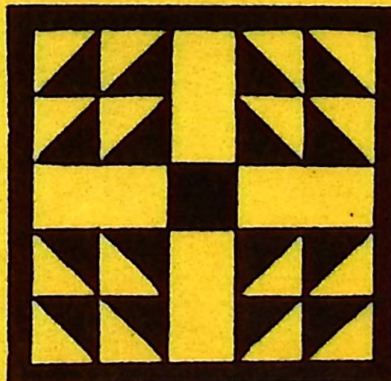
Presents
QUILTS
OF
TOMPKINS COUNTY

October 17-18, 1981

Heirloom and
modern quilts

Drawing for
wall hanging

Viewer's
Choice



Resource Room
sponsored by
Flying Geese:
The Quilt
Admiration
Society of
Ithaca

Women's Community Building

Seneca & Cayuga Sts.

Ithaca, New York

Admission - \$1.00

Hours: 10-5



*Quilts of Tompkins County
October 17-18, 1981*

ITHACA JOURNAL • Friday, Oct. 2, 1981

For the Record

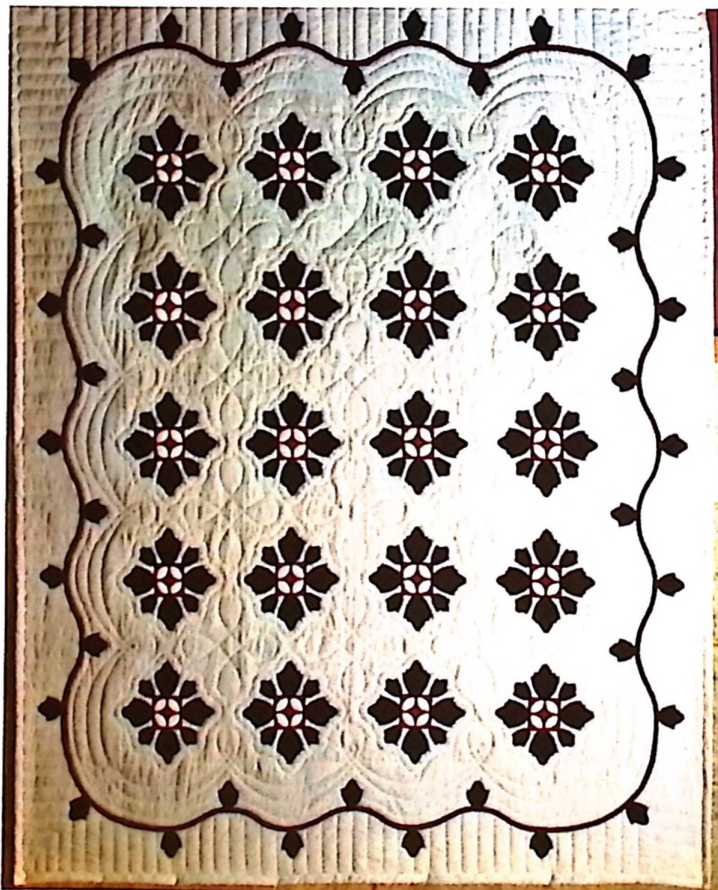
PECK'S PEOPLE

By JOHN PECK
Journal Staff

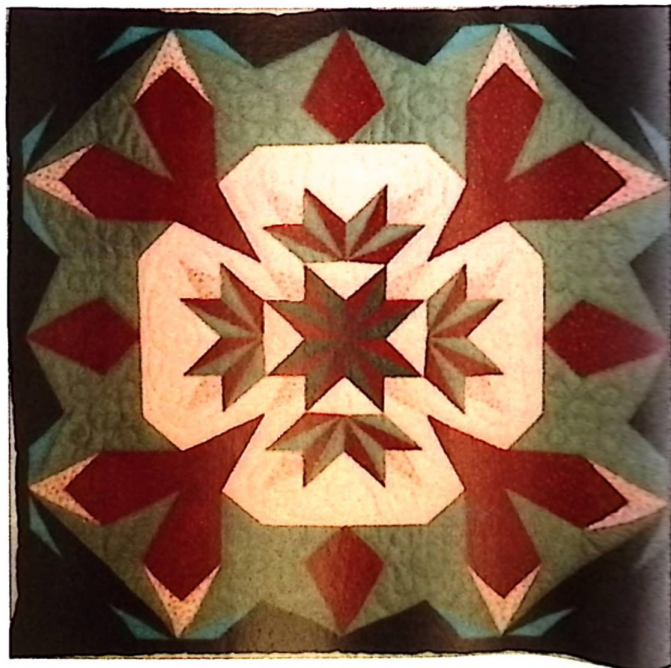
ANTIQUE AND CONTEMPORARY quilts will be displayed by the Tompkins County Quilters' Guild at Ithaca Women's Community Building, Oct. 17-18. Hours are 10 to 5. There will be a drawing for a medallion quilt and demonstrations.

Be apprised that Ruth L. Him of Ithaca won the "viewers choice award" for her great grandmother's quilt at the recent program of Tompkins County Quilters' Guild. Pauline Brower of Ithaca won the drawing for the Medallion quilt.

Name: Pauline Brower
 Address: 315 Hutton
Ithaca
 Phone: 272-5653



Great Grandmother's Quilt
Viewers' Choice



Medallion
Raffle Quilt

Featu

The Ithaca JOUR



Quilts

A show of Americana at Women's Community Building. Page 9.

QUILTS

OF TOMPKINS COUNTY

It was a quilt lovers' paradise—more than a hundred quilts were on show—some antique and some hand-made—filling the Women's Community Building with splashes of color and design.

The "Quilts of Tompkins County" show Saturday and Sunday, sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, drew a crowd of more than 200, some from as far away as Montreal, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and virtually every corner of New York state.

Pat Valerio of the Quilters Guild said Tompkins County itself is center for a widespread interest in quilting, with about 150 active quilters in three or four organized groups, and many others who quilt independently.

Quilt admirers can extend their enjoyment of the show thanks to an America's Beautiful grant which made it possible to photograph returns in the exhibit. Loan an antique, and make the slides available to community groups wishing to see them.

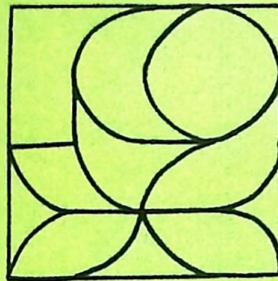
Prizes were awarded in six categories: Double Faced Quilt of Thomas (1884) exhibited by Mrs. Ted Hubel, Flynn Green (1884) exhibited by Kate Marston Applique, Coarses Crown (1890's) Eva Cole, Great Grandmother's Quilt (1870's) Ruth L. Hill, Embroidered Song Bird (1911) Lorraine Sack, Two Patch Triangles (1900's) Mrs. William Frank, Quilt, Grace Quilt (1884), Margaret Jacobs, Quilt Quilt (1860's), John S. Shultz, Original Design, Patch (1870's), Paul Red Fox, William Hill Hanging Quilt, Ray Parker, Covered Bed Quilt (1881), Susan Quirk. For more information about the Quilters Guild, contact Valerio through the Women's Community Building. The group's next meeting is at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11.



These five quilts were among more than a hundred on display for the Tompkins County Quilters Guild show Saturday and Sunday. Clockwise, from above: Double T in sweater (1980) by Ada Updike; Ohio Star Variation (1910s) from Mrs. William Frank; Song Bird (1911) embroidered by Lorraine Sack; Log Cabin (early 1900s) exhibited by Susan Quirk; and Flag Quilt, applique over piecing, by Elizabeth Mulholland.

Photographs by Peter Schuster/Journal Staff

1982



QUILT LECTURE

DEVELOPING A DESIGN FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

JOYCE M. SCHLOTZHAUER

2:30 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1982

Women's Community Building

Seneca & Cayuga Sts.

Ithaca, New York

TICKETS: \$2.00 IN ADVANCE; \$2.50 AT THE DOOR

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Send S.A.S.E. to - Tompkins County Quilters Guild
Women's Community Bldg
100 West Seneca St.
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD PRESENTS

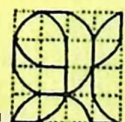


Joyce M. Schlotzhauer
- Quiltmaker -

DEVELOPING A DESIGN FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

Women's Community Building
100 W. Seneca St., Ithaca, N.Y.
Saturday, September 18, 1982 - 2:30 PM
Advance Sale \$2.00 - Door \$2.50

Announcing...
DEVELOPING A DESIGN FROM VARIOUS SOURCES
JOYCE M. SCHLOTZHAUER
Quilt designer from
Painted Post, N.Y.
Lecture with quilts
and slides
September 18, 1982 - 2:30 p.m.



↑ Eleanor Abbott, Thelma Kern,
Sally Kern, Betty Mac Kenzie

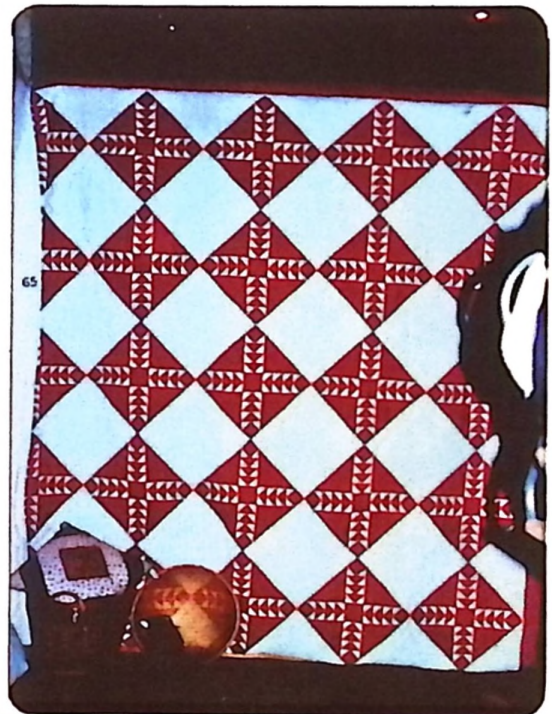
← Joyce Schlotzhauer helps
Debbie Mason



Peek's Peep 10/16/82

The word is out that Gloria Fulton of E. Bates Road, Trumansburg is a big winner. She has hauled-off and won the Mountain Star String Quilt, offered by the Tompkins County Quilters' Guild of Ithaca. That, from guild president Pat Valerio of 62 Highgate Circle, Ithaca.

Quilt made to raise money for 1983 Show catalog



*Wild Goose Chase - 1982
Made by TCQG members as a going-away gift for retiring president, Pat Valerio, who then decided not to move.*

*Pat at left in photo above.
Finished quilt at right - quilted by recipient.*



MARCH 1983

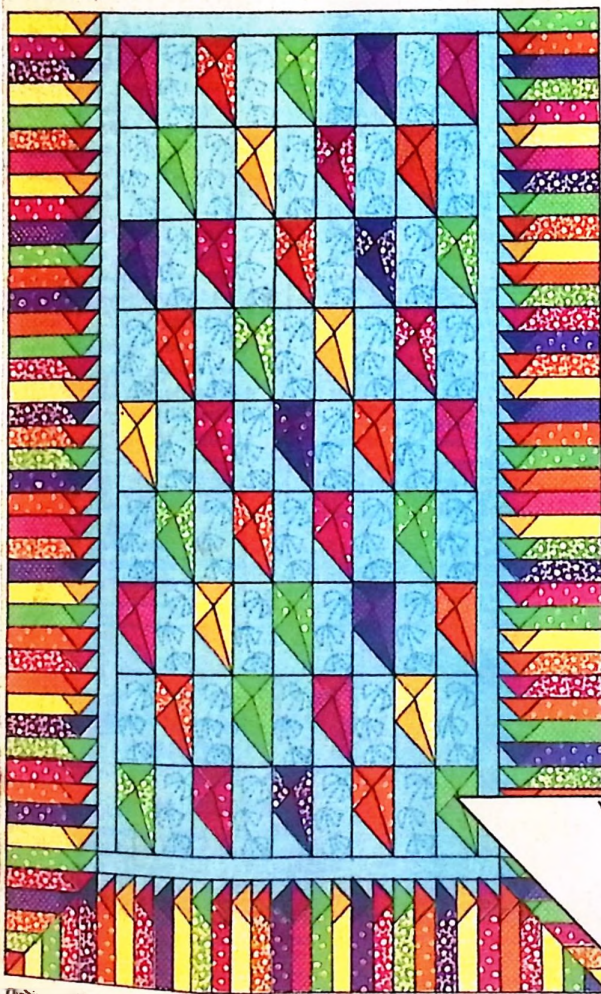
Peak's People - 3/2/83.

The folks of Tompkins County Quilters Guild report that Barbara Phillips Long is featured in the March issue of Quilters Newsletter Magazine as a modern quilting contest winner for her original design of "Kites on a String" quilt pattern.

They say we're all invited to meet Barbara at the next quilters meeting, set for 7:30 p.m. March 8 at Ithaca Women's Community Building.

MODERN QUILTING CONTEST WINNER

KITES ON A STRING



This bright, new, simple-to-sew pattern was designed by Barbara Phillips Long for our Modern Quilting Contest.

Quilt Size: 56 1/4" x 80 3/4" for youth bed or twin coverlet. Block Size: 3 3/4" x 7 1/2".

Yardage (44" fabric) and Cutting: From 2 1/4 yds. medium blue solid cut 2 strips 2 3/4" x 70", 2 strips 2 3/4" x 40", binding 1 1/2" x 8 yds., 40 E (next page), 41 B, and 96 F. From 1 1/4 yds. total scrap solids cut 145 A and 41 C. (Pattern C is on next page.) From 2 1/4 yds. total scrap prints cut 41 A, 41 D, 58 G, and 58 Gr. Also needed are 4 3/4 yds. lining and 60" x 84" batting.

Assembly: First, refer to block diagram and make 41 blocks of different colors from scraps. You should use the same print for A and D within each block and use a matching solid for both A and C in same block. Next, join the kite blocks and blue E's alternately in 9 rows of 9; then join rows. Now, add 70" strips to sides and 40" strips to top and bottom, trimming ends to fit.

Next, make the units for the pieced borders. Refer to unit diagrams. The print G and solid A should match in each unit. The first step is to make 52 each of Unit 1 and

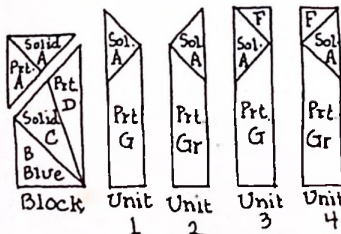
continued on page 29

KITES ON A STRING continued . . .

Unit 2. Set aside 4 each of these units. Make 48 Unit 3's and 48 Unit 4's by adding blue F's to remaining Units 1 and 2, as in diagram. Now, referring to quilt picture and Fig. 1, join 38 Unit 3's, 2 Unit 1's, and 3 G's, and sew to *left* side of quilt. Stitch to seam lines only at bottom, not to edges, because you will be mitering the corners there. Join 38 Unit 4's, 2 Unit 2's, and 3 G's reversed (Gr), and sew to *right* of quilt, again stitching to seam line only at bottom. Piece the bottom border in this order: 3 Gr's, 2 Unit 2's, 10 Unit 4's, 10 Unit 3's, 2 Unit 1's, and 3 G's; sew it to quilt, stitching to seam lines where it will meet side border stitching.

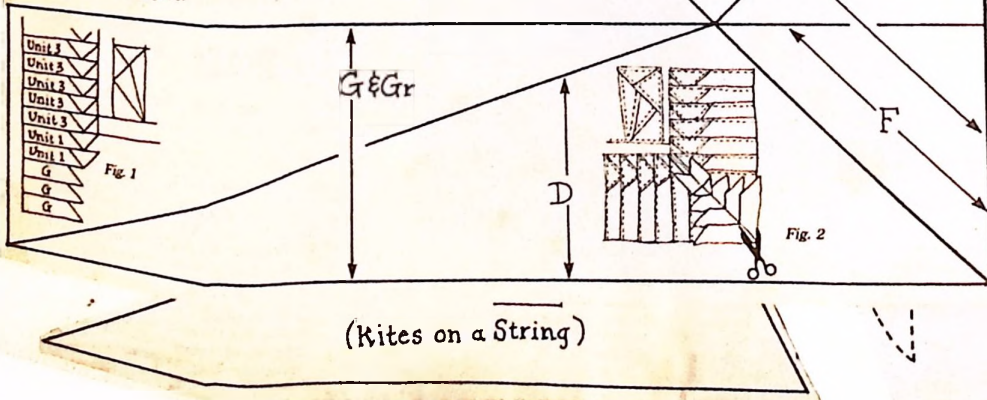
Finally, referring to Fig. 2, miter the two corners at bottom of quilt. Trim away the resulting excess material so only a 1/4" seam allowance is left.

Trace two halves of kite tails quilting motif given on page 18, overlapping halves and matching dots and squares. Mark whole motif in each E patch. Quilt as marked, outline quilt patches, and bind in blue to finish.



Quilting motif is on page 18.
C and E patterns are on page 13.

Add 1/4" seams to patches A-G.



Kites on a
String Quilting





SPRING FEVER!

CRAFT GUILDS' SALE AND EXHIBIT

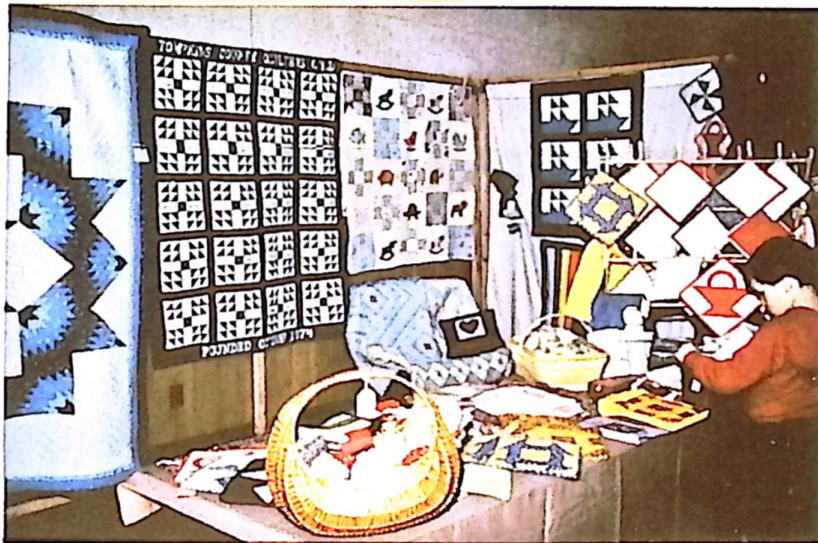
APRIL 9-10
11-4:30 p.m.

Juried, quality crafts for spring by Ithaca area guilds and individuals.
Something for everyone!

Featured craftsman: ELEANOR ABBOTT
quilter from Brooktondale, New York

Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St., Ithaca. 50¢ admission.

We Sponsor Spring Fever ~ 1983



Spring fever!

Free Press
3/3/83

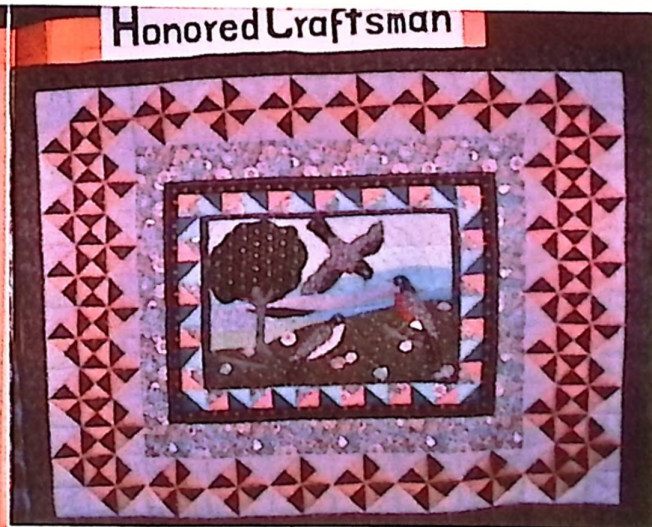
ITHACA—The third annual Spring Fever Sale and Exhibit by Ithaca area craft guilds will be held at the Women's Community Building, 100 West Seneca Sts., Ithaca, on Saturday and Sunday, April 9 and 10.

The event is being sponsored this year by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and features juried, high quality crafts for sale, as well as live demonstrations of bobbin lace-making, spinning, weaving, quilting, and other crafts. A number of individual craftsmen will be exhibiting. Guilds participating include the Black Sheep Handspinners Guild, Seven Valley Weavers, Ithaca Textile Arts Guild, T.C. Quilters Guild, Flying Geese, and more.

The featured craftsman this year is (guess what!) a quilter. Eleanor Abbott of Brooktondale is doing a series of crib and lap quilts featuring birds of our area.

Hours are 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. There is a 50¢ admission charge per person.

For more information, please contact Pat Valerio (607) 257-6116.



Two of Eleanor's birds -- Chickadees (left) and Robins (above)

Awards Donated

ART AND CRAFT SPECIAL AWARDS

The Sterns & Foster Company will award a MOUNTAIN MIST quilt batt to the six best Blue Ribbon winners in the quilt categories (classes). A "Best of Show" winner in the quilt categories will receive a \$25.00 award and a hand quilted "Best of Show Ribbon".

* * *

Quilt Corner, Incorporated
Camillus, N.Y.

\$25.00 Cash Award in Quilting

* * *

Towpath Quilt Guild
Cazenovia, N.Y.

\$25.00 Cash Award for Best Hand
Workmanship in Class 44

* * *

Tompkins County Quilters Guild
Ithaca, N.Y.

\$25.00 Cash Award in Quilting



ART AND CRAFT SPECIAL AWARDS

Chapell's Stores
\$50.00 "BEST OF SHOW" AWARD
Sections 1 - 23 eligible

The Stearns Technical Textiles Company will award a MOUNTAIN MIST quilt batt to six Blue Ribbon winners in the quilt classes. A "Best of Show" winner in the quilt categories will receive a \$25.00 award and a hand quilted "Best of Show" Ribbon.

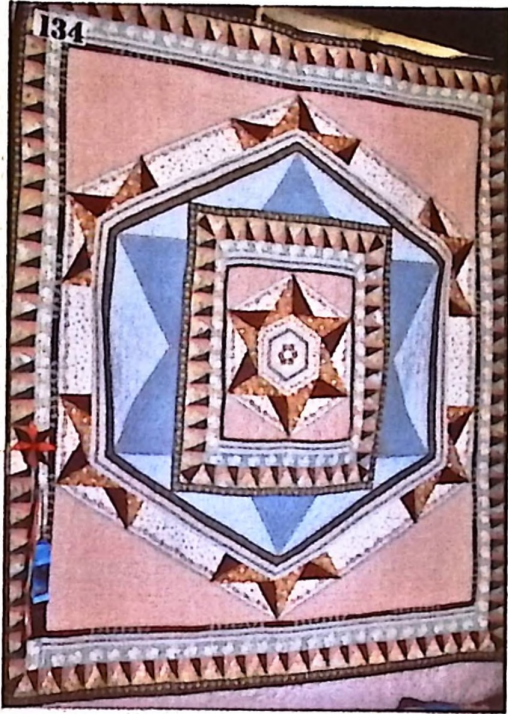
Black Sheep Handspinners Guild
Ithaca, NY
\$25.00 cash award from Sec. 13, Handspun Yarn

Quilt Corner, Incorporated
Camillus, NY
\$25.00 cash award from Sec. 8, Quilting

Tompkins County Quilters Guild
Ithaca, NY
\$50.00 cash award from Sec. 8, Class 45, Pieced Quilt



New York State Fair - 1983
 ICQG award for best workmanship
 in a pieced quilt
 Made by Lebekah Clark, Cazenovia



Woodbine Medallion 1982



Basket Quilt - 1983
 Baby gift for Jan &
 Becca Metzger

April 1983

Dear Betty,

I'd like to say a great big
 'thank you' to you and Barb Dimock,
 and all the other wonderful ladies
 who sponsored you and/or stitched
 at the stitchathon on March 12. We
 raised \$378.75 for the Task Force for
 Battered Women. "Thank You" we couldn't
 have done it without you!

Sincerely,
 C.E. Susann Brainard



TOMPKINS
 COUNTY
 QUILT
 SHOW '83

More than 100 antique and
 contemporary quilts on exhibit.

Friday, October 14, 6-9 p.m.
 Saturday and Sunday,
 October 15 and 16, 10-5 p.m.

Women's Community Building
 At the corner of Seneca and Cayuga Streets in
 downtown Ithaca, near the Ithaca Commons.
 Admission \$1.00

Quilts, quilted clothing, and other quilted items;
 demonstrations, vendors, on-going slide show.

Sponsored by Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Quintessential Quilting

By GLORIA ROSS

Special to The Journal

QUILTING is an old-fashioned art, but it is also a contemporary craft. In the Ithaca area, dozens of quilters keep the tradition alive through organizations. Like the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, whose membership has grown seven times over in the past 100 years.

The members come from Ithaca and surrounding communities, and from as far away as Horseheads and Syracuse to applique, piece and quilt tiny bits of fabric together, to exchange information and to inspire one another.

They have given quilting shows and demonstrations at several local events. In June, members of the Quilters Guild exhibited at the Ithaca Festival. July found them at Old Home Days in Homer. They appeared at the Woodcutters' Show in Trumansburg in September, and this month they demonstrated at the Cornell Fall-In.

But their most important event for the year will be the Tompkins County Quilt Show, this weekend at Ithaca's Women's Community Building.

It is an ancient art the quilters prize. The Chinese felt that through use, fabrics became part of the weaver, and they rarely discarded old clothing. Instead, they sewed fragments of old fabrics on new ones, and thus by recycling, they quilted.

In medieval times, knights went into battle with quilted coats that acted as "shock absorbers" under their armor. Quilted outer garments protected the armor from rusting or absorbing the heat of the sun. American quilts reflect the lifestyle of the period and the areas in which they were made.

During Colonial times, many East Coast quilts were made of linen-woolsey, a linen and cotton or wool fabric shipped from England. Instead, where fabrics were difficult to obtain, homespun and scraps of old clothing had to be used. Patchwork and crazy-quilt patterns were prevalent.

In the Southern colonies, rich silks, cottons and laces were used for ornate applique quilts on many of the large plantations.

"Freedom Quilts" were given to young men reaching their 21st birthdays in the early 1800s. And girls began at an early age to work quilt tops for their hope chests. Each was removed, and the 11th was reserved for her bridal quilt. Only at the time of her engagement party were the hearts stitched on the

quilt by her family and friends. To do so earlier might have brought about a broken romance, according to superstition.

No newborn's crib was complete without its snow-white quilt or coverlet, and quilts were frequently made to commemorate the death of a loved one.

Quilts were used in place of doors and broken windows, for bandages, mattresses, bedrolls and picnic blankets.

They were used for infants at play, as payment for debts during years when crops failed, or as a fund-raising means at church bazaars.

Quilting bees were big social events for 19th century families. Groups of women and girls would gather around the quilting frame, and entire quilts were often completed in a day. In the evening, the men would come for dinner in their Sunday best. And after the bee, each single man and woman grouped a corner of the new quilt and placed a cat in the center. They would fling the cat into the air, and the lucky person standing closest to the spot where the cat landed was supposedly the next one to become engaged.

Pat Valerio, past president of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and chairman of this year's show, has lived most of her life with quilts. "When I was a little girl I looked at quilts my grandmother had made, and wondered at them, and about her," she said. "Much later, when I was older and living near Los Angeles, I decided to make a quilt for a friend who was going to have a baby. I couldn't think of a newer quilt, but I didn't realize that nine months isn't nearly long enough to make a quilt. I put the project on the back burner until we moved to Ithaca about nine years ago.

"It seems an area conducive to quilting, and I've been able to put in many hours. However, I knew I needed help when that finished baby quilt was big enough to fit a single bed. Five years ago I read an announcement in the Ithaca Journal about a Quilters Guild meeting at the Community Building. There was my help, and I've been quilting ever since."

Ithaca is something of a gathering place for quilters, Valerio said. "Quilters have a way of planning vacation trips around quilting shows. I know my family does, and we expect to see people at our show from as far away as Toronto, Canada and West Virginia."

Quilts are made in three layers. A filling of cotton, wool or polyester is "sandwiched" between a plain, full-width fabric backing and an ornate, patterned top. Quilting is the term used for the thousands of tiny top stitches, sewn in patterns, which bind the three layers together.

It's the top that tells the story. By examining the fabrics, patterns and even the colors used, quilts can be accurately dated. For example, red and green applique (one cut-out pattern sewn over a base layer) flowers on a white background usually date that quilt to 1840-60. Small, all-over, calico designs pre-date the larger floral patterns that slowly evolved after the 1900s.

In 1870-75, Victorian crazy quilts became popular. They were made of random-size shapes, pieced together. Many times they included silks, satins and velvets, and often were used as furniture throws.

Every quilt pattern has a name. They were named for flowers and foods (Primrose Path and Melon Patch), birds and insects (Wild Goose and Honey Bee).

Quilts were named for people, places, trades and occupations, and political situations.

Although early quilts were often made in the name of economy, handmade quilts are not cheap today. "If you're lucky enough to find one for sale, you might be able to purchase it for \$800," Valerio said.

"It takes an incredible amount of time — we plan on two years — to complete a hand-sewn quilt. That's why we have our quilt shows every other year."

These days, it's considered fair to use sewing machines to stitch a quilt, and one can make one at a



Pat Valerio in her home workshop with some of the pieces she has quilted.

'Make an heirloom' is quilt show theme

The Tompkins County Quilt Show is scheduled for 8 to 9 p.m. Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Women's Community Building.

Quilt makers and owners will meet and talk with visitors at an opening reception Friday evening.

More than 100 antique and contemporary quilts will be on display throughout the exhibit. Among them is a mini-quilt or wall hanging created by Pat Valerio in her own "stained glass window" pattern.

Also on display will be quilted wall hangings, jackets, dresses, baby dresses, vests, Christmas decorations and small gifts, window quilts and pillows.

There will be a continuing slide show featuring quilts shown at the 1978 Bicentennial Quilt Show and the 1981 Tompkins County quilt show.

Demonstrations are planned for Saturday and Sunday on making patchwork purses, hand-made pillow forms, labels, Christmas ornaments, stained glass window appliques and feminine Indian pleating.

Members of the "Flying Geese," a quilt appreciation study group, will be on hand with information and newsletters about their organization.

"Make every quilt that heirloom quilt" is the theme of the show, and representatives of supply shops will be on hand with books and samples.

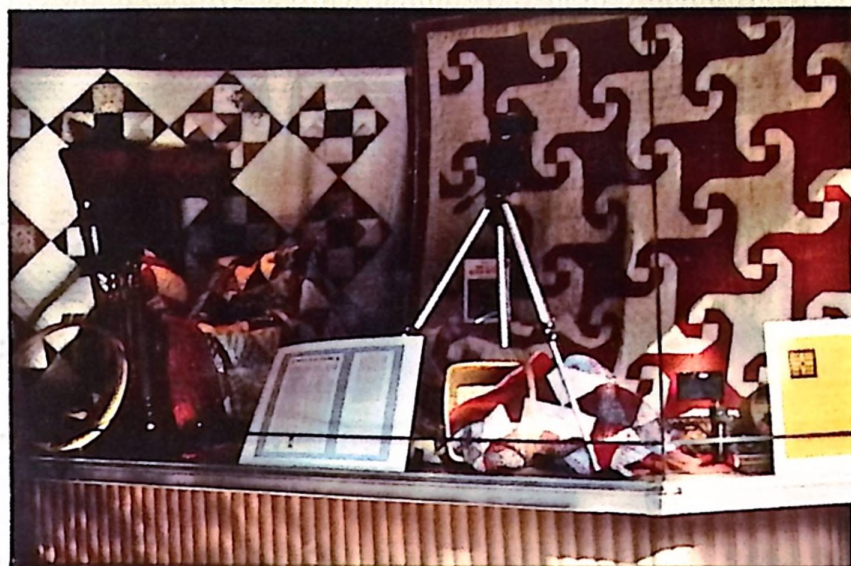
cost of about \$60, for the three fabric layers needed to make a double-sized bed quilt. You'll also need ordinary sewing implements, graph paper, pencils and erasers for the project.

Valerio said that although three-quarters of the beds in America were covered by quilts in the mid-1800s, the tradition died down until its revival during the 1976 Bicentennial.

Then, she said, "A whole new group of quilters came into being, and (now) we use quilts just as our ancestors did. You can look at a quilt and see the radiation. If you look carefully, sometimes you'll find hidden messages stitched in the quilting."

One of her favorites, she said, is this one, discovered in an old California quilt: "Thank Goodness This Quilt is Finally Done."

Window Displays
during 1983
Quilt Show



Cameras 'N Things



↑
← Corner Bookstore

Admissions - Katie Lawrence, Pat Valerio,
Barbara Dimock



Mary Lehmann sells
raffle tickets →



Christmas Display ↑



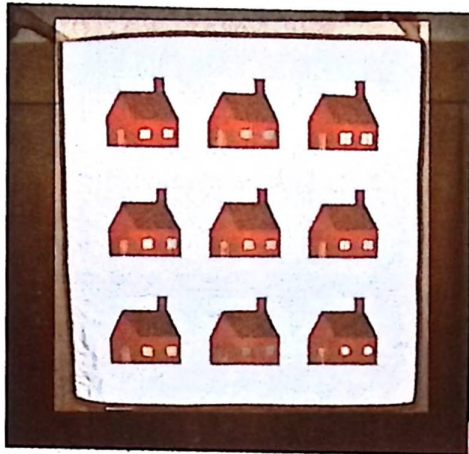
Dining/kitchen ↑
display

↑ Information
Table
Katie Lawrence
and
Dorothy Sholeen

Nursery display →



Viewers Choice Awards - 1983



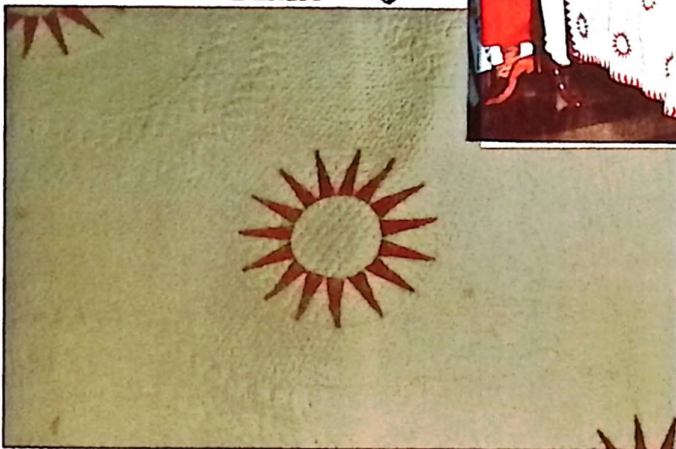
Contemporary →
Whig Rose, 1981-83
Eleanor Abbott,
Brooktondale



less-than-bedsized ↑
Houses in miniature 1983
Luth L. Him, Ithaca



Detail ↘



↙ Antigue - Mariner's Compass
Virginia McEwen, Ithaca c.1860
Antique bed owned by Gale Auster

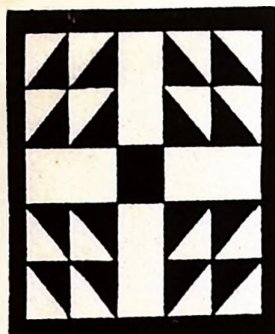
Quilt made for drawing →

Rose of Sharon - 1983
Won by Carol Sambora



NAME	<u>Car Sambora</u> <u>(Carol)</u>
ADDRESS	<u>Waterville</u> <u>Ny</u>
PHONE	<u>315-841-8295</u>

1984



TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD

Women's Community Building
100 West Seneca Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
May 25, 1984

Our Guild is ten years old this year. That's right! According to our banner we were organized in October of 1974. No doubt about it...we're here to stay!

We'd like to get together with you and the others whose signatures are on that banner to meet the people belonging to those names. Tuesday, June 12, which is one of our regular meeting nights, is being set aside as Founders' Night. We invite you to come and meet the members of our present Guild. There are 37 of us meeting and working on current projects. It will be a time, also, for us to reminisce about our beginnings and the part you all played in establishing the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

One of the favorite times at each meeting is "show and tell". If you have something you'd like to show us (old or new) we'll be tickled pink to ooh and aah. And, we'll "show and tell" about some of our special projects.

A historical scrapbook is being compiled which will be on display that night. If you have any pictures or news stories you'd like to donate to our archives, we'll preserve them for future quilters.

If you know you can't attend Founders' Night, will you give me a call so I can report that I've talked with you?

Looking forward to seeing you June 12th.

Thelma Hulita

Ruth

Ruth L. Him
(272-3150)

1217 Dryden Rd

Tuesday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Community Building

Founder's Night June 12, 1984 Guest Register

Loth Jim
Grace McQueen
Betty MacKenzie
Jake Austin
Lillian Love
Cece Griffen
Beryl MacDonald
Barbara Dimock
Ruth Stang
Nancy Marwin
Jean Lawrence
Virginia P. Fenton
Givie Strobel
Marge Beaswell
Mildred Williams

Brigid Huberman
Helen Taylor-Way
Wendy Udall
Lucille Straub

Evelyn Maxwell
Becca Metzger
Nina Linton
Katie Lawrence
Jeanne Steue

Georgette Smith
Marian Jaro
Pete H. Edman
Barbara Phillips Long
Lisa S. Turner
Nichole F. Ward
George L. Ryall
Pat Valquis
Mary A. Casper
Rebecca Clark

Mary Lehmann
Sally Kern

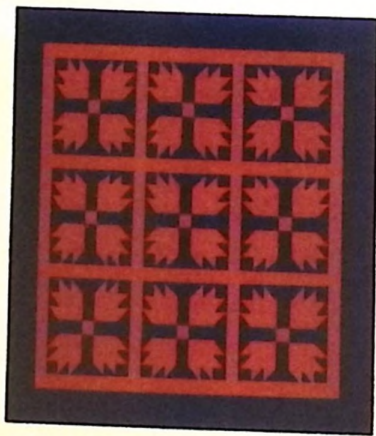


Founders...

Ethelyn Maxwell
 Nina Linton
 Jeanne Greene
 Barbara Dimock
 Phebe Erdman
 Betty Mackenzie

Past Presidents...

Lisa Turner
 Nina Linton
 Jeanne Greene
 Betty Mackenzie
 Pat Valerio
 Barbara Dimock



June 6, 1984

Dear Ruth and Tompkins County Quilters Guild,
 It is with genuine regret that I will not be able to join you for Founders Night on June 12. Associations with the people involved in starting the Guild and planning the Bicentennial Quilt Show in 1976 are among my fondest memories of the 11 years Bill and I were in Ithaca while he attended graduate school at Cornell.

I will travel extensively as a Chemistry Technical Specialist for Cauter Electronics, Inc. and after Cornell my Quilter's News letter

2.

for shows or quilt shops in areas where a business trip is required. (I've also been seen quilting in hotel rooms and airline gate areas - talk about quilters on the move...!)

It has been exciting to see the growing interest over the past ten years in both the preservation of traditional quilting and the expansion into new designs and appreciation of quilting as an art form.

I am so pleased with the growth of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and proud to have been a small part of its life.

3.

Congratulations to the Guild on this 10th Anniversary!!

Sincerely,
 Peg Bruchart
 Fredrick, Md.

BEAR'S PAW
 A PATCHWORK DESIGN
 © Katy Fidler

Quilts blanket the walls of Johnson Museum

By WINIFRED YU AND JAMES McGRATH MORRIS
Journal Staff

Quilts will blanket the walls of the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art this summer.

Two exhibits displaying the art of quilting by regional and international artisans are featured at the Cornell University museum through August 26.

A display of 24 quilts by nationally-known quilters is hanging in the museum's main gallery. To complement the traveling collection, an exhibit by Central New York quilters is on display on the floor below.

Louise Porter, coordinator of crafts at the museum, and Eugenia Barnes, quilter and teacher, selected 16 quilts by 11 quilters for the regional portion of the show.

According to Porter, the exhibition captures a limited sample of what quilters in the area are doing.

"The exhibition illustrates the diversity and richness of quilting in Central New York," she said. "There are many active guilds whose members are producing really fine work. In general, these quilters are interested in working with variations of traditional patterns."

Eleanor Abbott of Brooktondale is one of the quilters whose work appears in the show. Abbott has two quilts on display, "Tree of Life" and "At Home on Woodthrus Lane."

"Tree of Life," Abbott said, depicts a "funny-looking tree with lots of different songbirds on it." Abbott said she stitched a cat into the picture because her family once owned a catbird that teased their cat.

Her other quilt, "At Home on Woodthrus Lane," symbolizes her family, Abbott said. Abbott's address is Woodthrus Lane and the four baby birds in the quilt represent her four children "who have long flown the nest," Abbott said.

Abbott said she is excited about contributing to the show.

"To be at the Johnson is a real ego trip," she said.

Family also was on the mind of quilter Leland Burnham when she created "Anansi the Spider" which hangs on an adjacent wall.

The Fayetteville artist said she made the quilt for her 10-year-old son, a "lover of nature and all wild things." Inspired by the children's book of the same title by Gerald McDermott, Burnham included spiders and other creatures.

The main exhibit, "Fabric Constructions: The Art Quilt," features 24 quilts by 11 contemporary quilters from around over the world.

Michael James, a quilter and author, organized the show. Porter said the Worcester Craft Center wanted to exhibit only James' quilts. He said he would only agree to display some of his work if other quilters were included in the exhibit.

Quiltmaking has strayed far from its original purpose, Porter said. Begun as a means of using unwanted scraps of material, quilting has evolved into an art.

"Some of these quilts will never make it on a bed," Porter said.

"Crafts have always had a hard time getting into a museum," she said. "Some people think because of their functions, they aren't crafts, which is terribly wrong."

In conjunction with the exhibits, the museum's Articipation program this year will deal with quilting. The "hands-on" demonstration program will be held at the Central Pavilion of the Ithaca Commons from noon to 3 p.m. on July 26 and 27.

The program will include demonstrations of quilting, and visitors can help create a community crazy quilt.

Suzette Lane, assistant coordinator of education at the museum, said visitors will be given a block of material, and the museum will provide accessories, including fabric paint and embroidery.

"It's just to let people's imaginations go wild," she said. "We will have examples of more traditional quilts too. After people see how traditional are made, they can make them or let their imaginations run wild. What we're hoping is that everyone makes his or her own crazy quilt."


Participants will have the choice of keeping their block or returning it, Lane said. Returned blocks will be sewn together to create a large community quilt.

A second Articipation program will be held at the museum from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 28 to give visitors an in-depth look at contemporary quilts and quilting. Show curator James will give a lecture accompanied by slides.

Ithaca quilter Beth Mulholland will lead a workshop on block patterns, and again, everyone can get together to work on the community crazy quilt, museum officials said.



Quilter Eleanor Abbott of Brooktondale shows off one of her two quilts, "Tree of Life," on display at the H.F. Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell University.



In stitches

Quilts grace the walls of the Johnson museum. Leisure.

July-Aug. 1984
The Journal's
Leisure section



October 30, 1984

Dear Ms. Mackenzie,

Just a note to thank you for participating in our Pioneer Festival. The day was a real success thanks to your group and all the other volunteers who made it possible. I enjoyed seeing your quilts, and watching you sewing.

I hope you felt the day was worthwhile - I sure did! Please pass my thanks and appreciation along to your friends who also helped with the Guild's Exhibit.

Hope to have you again next year,

Thanks -
Sandy Gilbert



Sally Kern and her daughter at the Ithaca Festival.
June 1984

October 27, 1984

Quilted on the 1985 show quilt & displayed unfinished Schoolhouse quilt at Cayuga Nature Center's Pioneer Days.

Guild Birds

Guild members made blocks for Betty MacKenzie to thank her for her term as president. Betty assembled the blocks and quilted it.



Mrs. Helen J. Kramer

Mrs. Helen J. Kramer, 72, of 24 West Malloryville Road, Freeville, died Thursday, Aug. 2, 1984 at her home after a brief illness.

Madeline D. Arnold

ENFIELD — Madeline D. Arnold, 71, of 92 Gray Road, Enfield, died Thursday, Jan. 24, 1985, at Tompkins Community Hospital after a long illness.



Junior 4-H award
winner - 1984 →
Tina Simmons
Rainbow Whirlwind



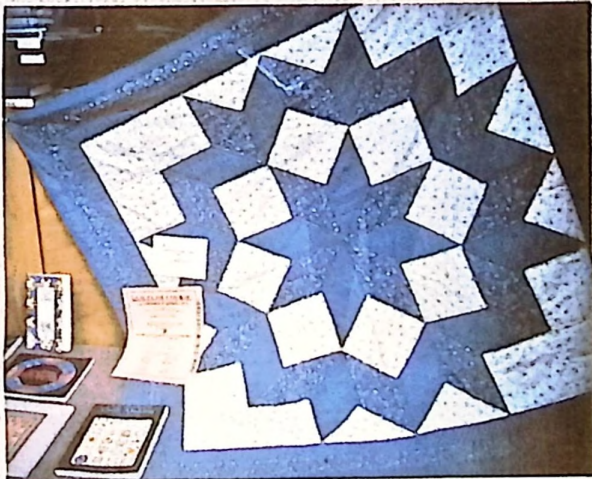
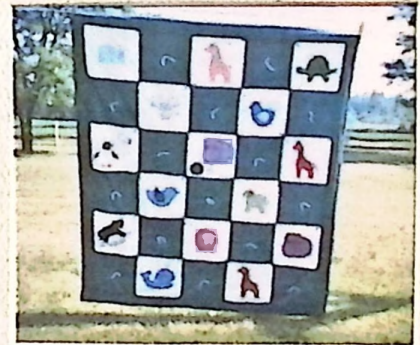
Animal Applique 1984
Baby quilt for Vivian
Skrotzki (Germany)

↑ Jack-in-the-Box - 1984

Baby quilt for
Linda VanNederynen

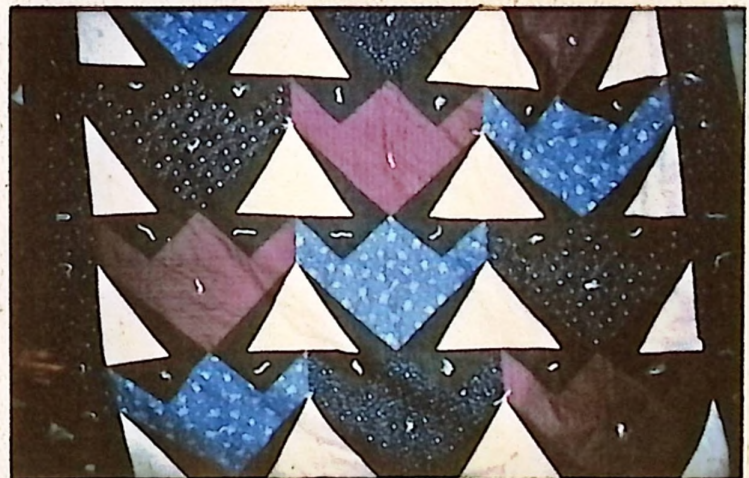
↑ Schoolhouse 1984

Raffled among members of
the Guild... won by
Linda VanNederynen



↑ Broken Star 1984 - Baby
quilt for Brigid Hubberman.

April Tulip 1984 - Baby →
quilt for Barbara Long.
An original design by Barbara.



1985

ROUND ROBIN QUILTS

Ground Rules

Other than the expectation of one block per person per month, there are no ground rules.

The ideal is for each participant to make one block per month for a different participant each month. A reasonable leeway can be made for late entrants, flood, fire, broken limbs. Broken legs should not change anything but broken arms constitute a legitimate handicap.

BLOCKER - Person whose quilt it is - will establish size, shape, pattern.

BLOCKEE - Person making the block, a different one each month.

Blocker should provide a sturdy box, case, basket, to circulate supplies. This should contain:

1. Name, address, phone (at home) (at work?) in case blockee has questions.
2. Description of and instructions for desired block. If blocker wants identical pattern repeated by each blockee, the box should contain pattern templates noting whether or not seam allowance is included.
3. Fabric. (Additional fabric may be added periodically if all fabric is not available at the start, and if blocker wants to alter colors midstream). (If applique, it might be a good idea to precut background blocks)
4. Instructions about signing the block.
5. List of participants. This will establish an orderly progression of exchange whereby blockee can cross off name and know who gets the box next.

Exchanges will be made at the FOURTH TUESDAY Guild meetings, at Round Robin Show N Tell starting February, 1985.

Other suggestions can be made to guild president, who is automatically

BLOCK HEAD

Round Robin Quilts - 1985

About a dozen participants in this exchange prepared a box which included a pattern and instructions for a quilt which they would like to make. Some or all of the fabric to be used could be supplied or suggestions made as to type and color. The boxes were passed to the next person on the list at a specified interval. Each participant was expected to have her contribution prepared by the specified time. Because some quilts take more than a dozen blocks, it's necessary for the future owner to make up the extra needed blocks, unless some good friend volunteers to make two!!!

Here are ~~five~~ of those quilts.
SIX



Ponderosa
Margie Bracewell



Billy's Schoolhouse Quilt
Lisa Turner

More Round Robin Quilts



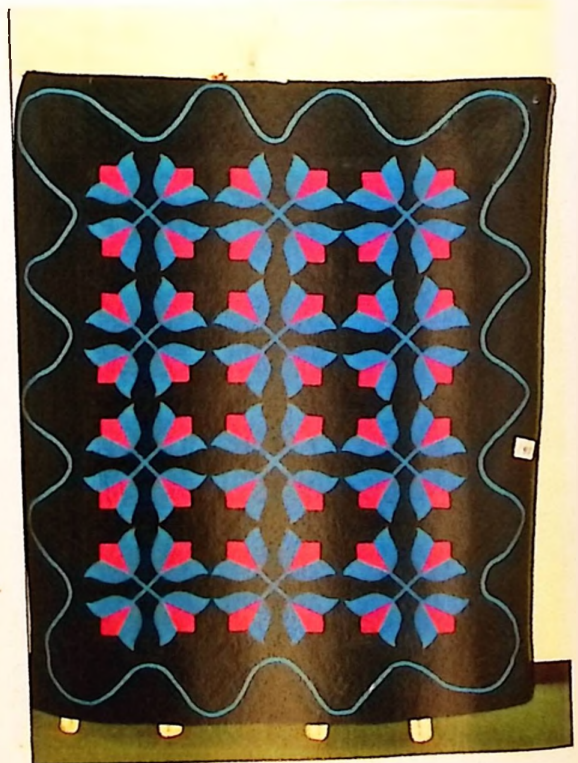
Friendship Tree
Barbara Dimock



Friendship Star
Top by Betty MacKenzie
Quilted by Melissa Fowler in 2002



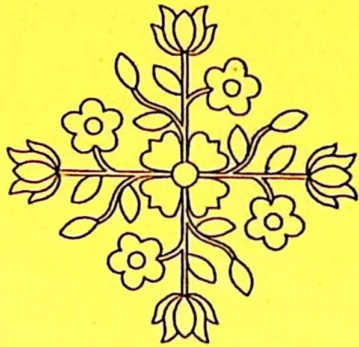
Oak Leaf + Acorn
Virginia Fenton



Crossed Tulips
Hilary Ford

QUILTS NEEDED

For the Tompkins County Quilters Guild's 1985 Quilt Show
Quilts, Of Course! "A Collection of Quilters' Art"
 Coming on October 11, 12, 13 at Women's Community Building



Selection Day

Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Women's Community Building
 100 W. Seneca Street
 Ithaca, New York



Please bring your **QUILTS**, old or new.

We'd love to see them and talk with you about them.



Selection Day

QUICK! Put this on your calendar

Tompkins County Quilters present:
QUILTS, OF COURSE!
 "A Collection of Quilters' Art"
 October 11, 6-9pm, 12th and 13th, 10am - 5pm
 Women's Community Bldg.
 100 W. Seneca St.
 Ithaca, N.Y.
 Adm. \$1.00

Featuring:

- * Over 100 antique and contemporary quilts and quilted wearables.
- * Vendors of, quilting supplies, fabric, books, paintings and handmade items.
- * Lecture by Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham, well known quiltmakers on, "Artistic Aspects of Quiltmaking" Saturday October 12 at 12:30 and 3:00 Adm. \$2.00. Smart to purchase tickets in advance

Close by:

- * Quilt displays in local merchants windows
- * Quilt exhibits at area museums
- * Apple festival on the Ithaca commons
- * Nice restaurants, some hanging quilts!
- * Lovely fabric shops

* For more information call,
 Ruth Him (607) 272-3150 or
 Brigid Hubberman (607) 257-5308

Don't Miss QUILT WEEKEND in downtown Ithaca!



QUILT WEEKEND

October 11, 12, 13, 1985

Quilt exhibits at area museums • Quilt displays in merchants' windows

• Apple Harvest Festival on the Ithaca Commons

Tompkins County Quilters Guild
1985 Show

QUILTS, OF COURSE!

"A Collection Of Quilter's Art"

Friday, October 11, 6-9 p.m.
Saturday, October 12, 10-5 p.m.
Sunday, October 13, 10-5 p.m.

Womens Community Building
100 West Seneca St.
Ithaca, N.Y.
\$1.00 Admission

Over 100 antique and contemporary quilts
Quilted wearables and other quilted items

Drawing for a stunning applique heirloom quilt

Ongoing demonstrations

Fashion Show - Sunday 3:00 p.m.

LECTURE at 115 N. Cayuga St.

Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham
Well known quilt makers

"The Artistic Aspects of Quiltmaking"

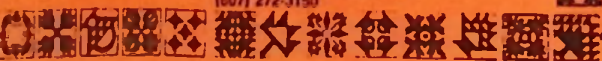
Saturday, October 12
12:30 and 3:00 p.m.

\$2.00 Admission
Limited Seating

Advance Lecture Tickets:

Make checks payable to: Tompkins County Quilters Guild

Send with a self addressed stamped envelope to:
Ruth L. Him 1217 Dryden Rd. Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
16071 272-3150



**Master quiltmakers
Gwen Marston and Joe
Cunningham will share
information about art
in needlework as part
of Quilt Weekend '85 at
the Women's
Community Building
and elsewhere. Call
272-3150 for details.**

The Tompkins County
Quilters Guild Presents...

QUILTS, OF COURSE!

"A Collection of Quilters' Art"

Over 100 Beautiful Quilts
Vendors - Fashion Show - Demonstrations

October 11, 12 and 13th
Friday 6-9p.m. / Sat. and Sun. 10-5p.m.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING
100 W. SENECA ST., ITHACA, N.Y.
\$1.00 Admission



LECTURE: GWEN MARSTON and JOE CUNNINGHAM

"The Artistic Aspects of Quiltmaking"

*Quilters N. S'84 - "A smashing success, quickly invited back! Their warmth and humor please all that hear them."
Plus 20 Quilts to illustrate remarks.*

Saturday, October 12 / 12:30 and 3:00 p.m. / \$2.00
Central Casting Theater / 115 N. Cayuga St. / Ithaca

■ OTHER QUILT WEEKEND EVENTS ■

SLIDE SHOW

"The Frear Family Quilt Collection"
Saturday, October 12
2:00 and 4:00 p.m.
The Dewitt Historical Museum
Clinton House
116 N. Cayuga St.
No Charge

MOVIE

"Quilts in Women's Lives"
Sunday, October 13
1:30 p.m.
The Hinckley Museum
410 E. Seneca St.
\$.75 Admission

MUSEUM EXHIBITS

The Dewitt Historical Museum
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Contemporary African - American quilts
- Historic quilted clothing
- Display and information concerning finishing quilt tops

Johnson Museum of Art

Central Avenue
Fri-Sat-Sun 10a.m. - 5p.m.

- Stunning contemporary quilt
- Selections from Folk Art collection, including quilts
- North American-Indian basketry



The Hinckley Museum
410 E. Seneca Street

Presents:

Don't miss Quilt displays and Apple Harvest Weekend in Downtown Ithaca
MORE INFORMATION Call RUTH HIM, (607) 272-3150 or (607) 257-5308

"Quilts in Women's Lives"

Sunday, October 13 1:30 p.m.
Admission 75¢

In conjunction with Quilts Of Course!
Quilt Show and Quilt Weekend.

See this wonderful, award winning
documentary of enthusiastic
quiltmakers sharing their lives and
their art. A warm and sensitive film
about seven quilters from across the
U.S.A.

For further information about this or other Quilt Weekend activities,
call Ruth Him 272-3150

11-13 — The Tompkins County Quilters Guild will sponsor quilting events throughout the weekend. The show *Quilts, Of Course! A Collection of Quilters' Art*, will be on display, 6-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St. Lecture: *The Artistic Aspects of Quiltmaking* with quiltmakers Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham; 12:30 and 3 p.m. Saturday, Central Casting Theatre, 115 N. Cayuga St. Slide show: *Frear Family Quilt Collection*, 2 and 4 p.m. Saturday, DeWitt Museum, 116 N. Cayuga St. Movie: *Quilts in Women's Lives*, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Hinckley Museum, 410 E. Seneca St. The program corresponds with quilting exhibits at The DeWitt Museum, The Johnson Museum, Cornell and The Hinckley Museum. For information, call 257-5308.

SLIDESHOW:
"FREAR FAMILY QUILTS"

Showings at 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. today

MURAL LOUNGE

Free and open to the public

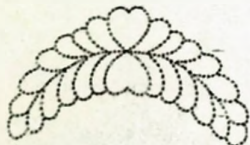
Tompkins County Quilters Guild
1985 Show

**QUILTS
OF COURSE!**

"A Collection Of Quilter's Art"

Friday, October 11, 6-9 p.m.
Saturday, October 12, 10-5 p.m.
Sunday, October 13, 10-5 p.m.

Women's Community Building
100 West Seneca St.
Ithaca, N.Y.
\$1.00 Admission



- Over 100 antique and contemporary quilts
- Quilted wearables and other quilted items
- Drawing for a stunning applique heirloom quilt
- Ongoing demonstrations
- Fashion Show - Sunday 3:00 p.m.

We invite you to participate in an informal showing of your applique, patchwork, or quilted clothing. If you plan to "Show Your Own", stop by at the information table and give your name. And do keep in mind the name and number if you used a commercial pattern.



VENDORS

- The Strawberry Patch - Fabric, Quilt supplies
- Burnt Hill Books - over 100 quilt books
- Anne McClintoc - Fabric and Quilt supplies
- Anthony DiChesere - Templates
- Pat Dolan - watercolor quilt paintings
- Tompkins County Quilters - quilted items

LECTURE



Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham
Well-known quilt makers

"The Artistic Aspects of Quiltmaking"

Central Casting Theater
115 North Cayuga St.
Ithaca

Saturday, October 12
12:30 and 3:00 p.m.
\$2.00 Admission

Limited Seating

Advance Lecture Tickets

Indicate first preference ___ 12:30 p.m. ___ 3:00 p.m.
Number of Tickets _____
Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

Tompkins County Quilters Guild



Send with a self addressed stamped envelope to:
Ruth L. Him
1217 Dryden Rd.
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
(607) 272-3150



SLIDE SHOW

"The Frear Family Quilt Collection"
Saturday, October 12
2:00 and 4:00 p.m.
The Dewitt Historical Museum
Clinton House
116 N. Cayuga St.
No Charge

MOVIE



"Quilts In Women's Lives"
Sunday, October 13
1:30 p.m.
The Hinckley Museum
410 E. Seneca St.
\$.75 Admission



MUSEUM EXHIBITS

The Dewitt Historical Museum
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Contemporary African - American quilts
- Historic quilted clothing
- Display and information concerning finishing quilt tops

Johnson Museum of Art

Central Avenue
Fri-Sat-Sun 10a.m. - 5p.m.

- Stunning contemporary quilt
- Selections from Folk Art collection, including quilts
- North American-Indian basketry

The Hinckley Museum
Saturday 1-4p.m.

• Exhibit of 19th century music in the home



1985 Quilt Selection Com.

Betty MacKenzie, Pat Valerio,
Eleanor Abbott



1985 Jr. 4-H

Winner -
Jackie Kolbenschlag
Doll Quilt

The Tompkins County
Quilters Guild Presents...

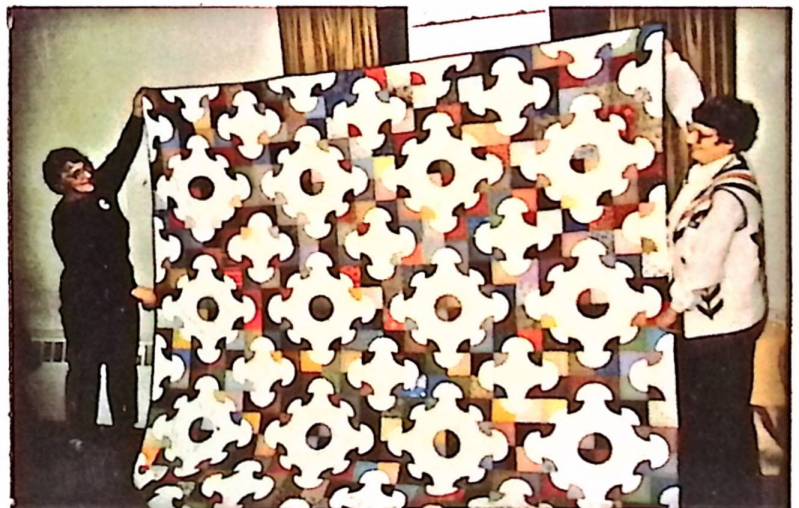
QUILT WEEKEND

IN ITHACA, N.Y.
October 11,12,13,1985

- ♥ Quilt Show Quilts. Of Course!
"A Collection Of Quilter's Art"
- ♥ Lectures, by Gwen Marston
and Joe Cunningham
- ♥ Quilt displays in downtown
merchants' windows
- ♥ Apple Harvest Festival on
the Ithaca Commons
- ♥ Quilt exhibits at area
museums

Pioneer Path - 1985

Given to Reconstruction Home
for use as a fundraiser.
Betty MacKenzie and Mary Lehmann
display the finished quilt



THE GRAPEVINE WEEKLY

October 10-16, 1985 FREE

HARVEST TIME

■ Pumpkins - p. 4

The cover of this issue is graced by a quilt brought to us by Brigid Hubberman. It was made by a group of mothers who had sent their children to the University Co-op Nursery School, as a gift for one of the school's teachers, Sally Reimer. Many in the group were from foreign countries and had never sewn before, let alone taken part in the enjoyment of this truly American tradition.

The cover photo is by Emil Ghinger with props help from Richard Schultz.



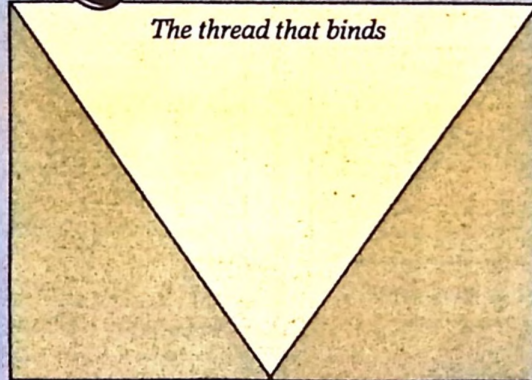
by Linda McCandless

Brigid Hubberman calls it "quilt fever" and she confesses she and at least 35 others in the area have a bad case of it. An epidemic of the calico and patchy fever is due to hit Ithaca in its biennial outbreak this coming weekend when the Tompkins County Quilters Guild presents their Quilt Weekend in conjunction with Ithaca's Apple Festival Weekend.

The carnival of fabric, color and design will include a splendid sampling of traditional quilts that have been found in sales and people's attics. But by far the greatest number of samples will be quilts of traditional patterns sewn by the modern needles of Central Finger Lakes quilters. Each quilt is unique but many are patterned after traditional designs. Quilt techniques will range from pieced work done by machine and hand, to applique, stipple quilting, trapunto and more.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild's first show was in 1976 when the then two-year-old Guild organized the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit

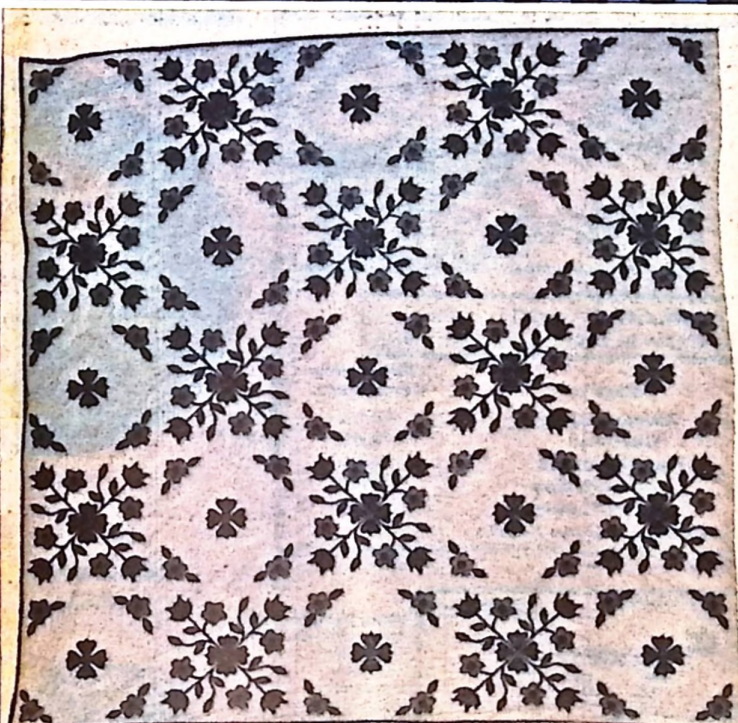
A HARVEST OF QUILTS



displaying over 600 quilts. This was the first national gathering of quilt enthusiasts. It was an important event for quilters who were just starting to come out of their isolation and communicate about an art that had — for most of them — been a family tradition.

Several movements in the '60s and '70s contributed to the rising recognition of quilting as an art form. The first impetus was provided by the Women's Movement, which brought women out of the home and into the spotlight, while at the same time recognizing their domestic work for the hard labor it is. There was also the back-to-the-land movement which increasingly recognized traditional values and craftsmanship as an important national heritage that should at least be preserved, if not practiced anew. Increasingly alienated from the present, many people turned to the past to rediscover a sense of their roots. This, in turn, inspired the revival of many almost lost folk arts — basketmaking, traditional boat building, carpentry done with hand tools, draft horse plowing and the domestic arts from bread baking to knitting to latching

continued on page 5



This quilt was made by the Tompkins County Quilt Guild. Sunday the group will raffle it off.
PHOTO BY EMIL GHNGER

QUILTS

continued from cover

and — of course — quilting. The Bicentennial in 1976 provided a further renewal of interest in these "folk arts."

Quilting is an art born of necessity — the need to keep warm with the materials at hand. When all clothing was made at home by hand, a diverse pile of scraps was a by-product. When clothing was too worn out to be patched again, it

was added to the heap. These scraps provided the materials for the quilts, which lay on every bed in the household. Familiar symmetries — geese flying, pinwheels, log cabins, wheat sheaves, trees, floral motifs — provided the patterns. And generations of women provided the stamina, the creativity and the ingenuity for the long hours that

were necessary. Usually quilting became a social occasion for an extended family of women and community. Needles and tongues flew. What resulted was a product of time, place and family; a product meant to be used, never hung as ornaments, as some are now.

People quilt for different reasons. Lisa Turner, a Guild member from Groton, has a quilt in the show as does her six year-old son, Billy. Lisa says, "Quilts are no longer made so much out of necessity. Now they are also made because they're beautiful. And that sense of beauty is very important to a quilter." Her son Billy has been going to quilt shows since he was a baby. His quilt was his own idea, a "nine patch" that he hand-sewed for his teddy bear, "Beady" — a project that required patience from both "mother and son," says Lisa. "I do it because it is fun," says Billy. "It gives me something to do besides comic books." Like most quilters he has his next quilt in mind. It will be another nine patch, perhaps for his brother's Teddy bear. Brigid Hubberman, another Guild member, says quilting "Ties me to women of the past and present. Quilts survive long after the woman is gone, but the woman lives on in her quilts."

Whatever the underlying reasons, quilt sales and quilting materials are now more than a "billion dollar" industry, according to the *Wall Street Journal*. Each year there are more country prints to be had, and more and better cottons and cotton-polyester blends to work. Cotton and wool battings are now readily available as is polyester fill. Traditional patterns are followed, and modern ones initiated. Both require innovation and a sense of design. Quilts are pieced by hand or, as is more often the case, by machine. Some quilts are tied but more stunning achievements are made by quilting a pattern (usually by hand) through the quilt top, the batting and the quilt bottom which provide another element of design that adds

durability, warmth and originality.

In addition to coverings for beds, quilters make clothes, wall hangings and accessories. They preserve quilts from the past and often finish quilt tops that have been found unfinished in attics and trunks. New titles in books and magazines are constantly being offered. The first edition of *Quilter's Newsletter* appeared 16 years ago with 5,000 copies. Now the four-color glossy magazine has more than 170,000 subscribers. And the Ribbon Project — not a quilting project per se, but largely a women's project of threads and fabric — wound 15 miles of sewn fabric around the Pentagon this past August.

Who is responsible for this renaissance in needle and thread? Behind this quilt fever is a network of women who are involved in this stitch-by-stitch and inch-by-inch act of love and faith. The novice and the experienced exchange ideas. "It is a form of self-expression," says Brigid Hubberman when trying to describe her nine year involvement with the Quilter's Guild. "We each bring what we're working on to our meetings. We show and we tell. There is so much inspiration and support from these other quilters."

Quilt fever is highly contagious. This weekend you may catch a good dose. Isolated outbreaks of the fever will occur all over town. Quilts will be on display in many shop windows. There will be a lecture by Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham, two famous quilt makers. Related exhibits, a slide show and a movie will occur at local museums. But the biggest outbreak of all will happen in the Women's Community Building, where over 100 antique and contemporary quilts and quilted wearables will be displayed in the "Quilts, Of Course! Collection of Quilter's Art" exhibit on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. □

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at the Women's Community Building. For more info, call Ruth Him at 272-3150.

Quilters exhibit pieces of their lives at local craft show

By KATHLEEN COOK
Journal Staff

More than 125 quilts, ranging from century-old to brand-new, will be on display in "Quilts of Color" at the Women's Community Building on Saturday.

The show, first held in 1974, is sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Members made 25 of the quilts that will be displayed. Others are part of members' previous collections or were borrowed from area residents.

Quilting, an ancient art that flourished in America during colonial days, is experiencing a national revival. Interest has increased in this area as well, and the Tompkins County Quilt Guild has more than doubled in size in the last four years.

Many quilters say the revival was sparked by the Bicentennial and its emphasis on early American crafts. The current trend to decorate homes in a "country" style also has drawn people to quilting, and quilt president

Estace Abbott.

"Around the middle of this century, people were ashamed of homemade things," Abbott said. "The attitude was: If you could buy it, it was better."

Abbott said that during those years homemade quilts often were tacked away, or used as mattress pads or used to wrap furniture.

"Now," she said, "everybody wants to get them out and show 'em off."

Another factor behind the resurgence is that quilts are considered by many to be works of art, instead of mere bed coverings.

Judy Jenzold, executive director of the Women's Community Building, said the women's movement helped raise the status of home skills such as quilting.

"Women's artwork always has been considered utilitarian," Jenzold said. "Now there is much more respect for it as an art form."

Karen Hout'ed, assistant professor of sociology at Ithaca College, said feminists have adopted

the quilt as a metaphor for studying women's history.

"If you look carefully at a quilt, you can see a part of that woman's life. You may see a piece of grandpa's old shirt, or a maternity dress..." Hout'ed said. "A woman's life was full of experiences not written in the history books."

Members of the quilters guild are as diverse as the quilts they painstakingly stitch. The 50 members range from great-grandmothers to mothers-to-be. They vary in their taste in quilts, in expertise and in the amount of time they devote to their craft.

Some work one or two hours a night on their projects, others put in full 40-hour weeks. Depending on complexity, a quilt can take from 6 months to two years to make.

Quilters share one common trait, said member Mary Lehmann: "We're fabricolics."

They like to outdo one another with tales of binges. "I've got a whole closet my husband doesn't dare go near," confessed a mem-

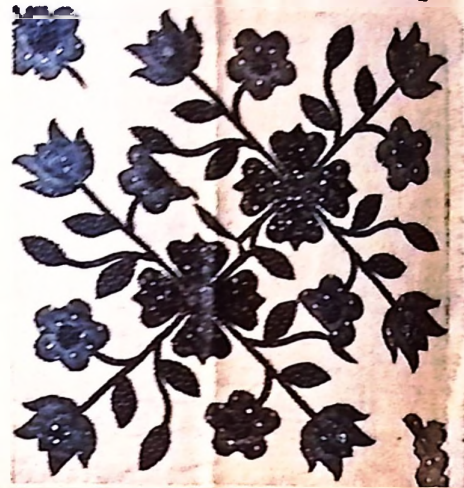
ber Tuesday night. "He's afraid of what'll fall out."

One member said her friend's bumper sticker hit the nail on the head: "I'm a quilter, and my house is in pieces."

All the quilts at the show are titled. Viewers will be invited to vote for their favorite quilted articles and viewers' choice ribbons will be awarded. Quilts usually sell for between \$100 and \$300, said Brigit Huberman, guild member.

Quilts may be viewed at the Women's Community Building between 6 and 9 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$1.

Quilting demonstrations will be in the main exhibit room of the Women's Community Building on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday, at 12:30 and 3 p.m. Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham, quilters and lecturers, will speak on "The Artistic Aspects of Quilting" at the Central Casting Theater, 105 East Seneca St. Admission is \$2.



Local artisans spotlighted at 1985 Quilters' Weekend

By GEM SPEICH

TRUMANSBURG—The Tompkins County Quilters Guild for 1985 promises to be even bigger than last year's, which was attended by more than 1,500 people. The Guild is sponsoring a "Quilt Weekend" which includes displays of many quilts in downtown Ithaca merchants' windows, lectures, exhibits, and a quilt show.

Trumansburg will be represented by the work of several quilters, the most prominent of whom will be Mary Lehmann and Mary Carver. Each has her own approach to her art but each makes a personal statement in the work produced.

Mary Lehmann quilts consistently and plans to open her own shop in her home next summer. She currently shows and sells much of her work in a handicrafts store in Ithaca. Mary's quilting takes on less traditional forms also. Bags, bibs, ornaments, soft hats, wall hangings, beautiful vests and completely new style jackets are examples of the quilting work she does. Many of these items will be shown in the Craft Room at the Quilter's show.

Mary's quilt, featuring the pattern called "the house on the hill," will be in the quilt show. The pattern is somewhat traditional but Mary has personalized it with stripes and hand quilting to suggest pathways leading everywhere.

Lehmann also prizes an owl quilt that consists of 1,000 pieces of two-inch squares and triangles. The owl pattern is extended through a moon in the background and a branch to perch on.

There are lots of decisions for quilters to make, according to Lehmann. Designs must be created or followed; borders and blocks must be sewn together with things and settings. All this takes place before actual quilting is done. She says, "Quilting is like the story on the top."

Lehmann believes that half the fun is derived from deciding on the fabric and design to be used in a quilt. She often uses contrasting fabrics and lighter colors for her quilts.

Another quilter entered, Mary Carver. She willingly became interested in quilting after being presented with a quilt at a 25th wedding anniversary present by her daughter. The quilt needed a few finishing

touches; not an unplanned gesture. She now quilts in concert with her daughter, Bridget Hubberman, as a team. Their work is on display in store windows located in McBooks, Logos and the Cat's Pajamas. One of Mary Carver's quilts, entitled the "Boston



Quilts of all colors and styles will overflow the Ithaca Commons this weekend as the annual Quilters' Guild show for 1985 gets underway.



Commons," was made for another daughter, Clare. Family is important to Mary and she plans to make quilts for her six grandchildren, and the two who are currently on the way. Having raised ten children, Carver will not run out of people to quilt for soon.

She has recently made a fan quilt that featured varicolored fans and prints and a "Grandmother's Flower

Garden" for a lucky lady in Ellis Hollow. She explained why she quilts. "It's so satisfying. It's really good to know that you are doing something that will last a long time," she says. There is also a lot of personal expression that goes into the making of each quilt that gives a certain satisfaction.

Quilting is an old art form but one that continually attracts people. There are many variations in technique, and one may choose to use a rolling frame or a hoop to quilt on. Carver prefers a hoop frame. She willingly expanded on the subject of "sandwiching" of necessary layers and filling before an article can actually be quilted.

The Quilters Guild, according to Carver, is a very versatile group. She joined about five years ago and enjoys the speakers, slides and demonstrations of technique presented at their twice-monthly meetings. She also enjoys the "show and tell" time when problems with stitches or colors are aired, and the camaraderie of the group.

Quilting can be accomplished in several ways, including piecing and applique work. Stitches can be hidden by "quilting in the ditch." Some quilts are tied rather than hand-quilted. Whatever the techniques, the quilts made by Mary Lehmann and Mary Carver are special and worth viewing.

So gather your scraps, your borders, your blocks and your ideas. Come find out what a template is and how to baste a quilt. Plan to see these in the examples of the quilters at their show. "Quilts, of course" at the Women's Community Building at 100 W. Seneca Street in Ithaca. The show will be open on Friday from 6 to 9 p.m.; and on Saturday and Sunday from 10 to 5 p.m. Over 100 antique and contemporary quilts and quilted items will be featured.



Admissions Table...
 Florence Cherry, Betty MacKenzie,
 Mary Neigh



QUILTS, OF COURSE!
 "A COLLECTION
 OF
 QUILTERS ART"

FRIDAY, OCT. 11: 6PM - 9PM
 SATURDAY, OCT. 12: 10AM - 5PM
 SUNDAY, OCT. 13: 10AM - 5PM
 ADMISSION \$1

LECTURE: "ARTISTIC ASPECTS OF
 QUILTMaking," BY GWEN MARSTON
 AND JOE CUNNINGHAM ON OCT. 12
 AT 12:30PM & 3PM.
 ADMISSION \$2

Harvest festivals

Apples and pumpkins signal return of autumn

By KATHLEEN COOK
 Journal Staff

The Women's Community Building was transformed into a quilter's showcase during Ithaca's Apple Harvest Festival this weekend when more than 1,500 people came to marvel at the sight.

There were similar festivals in Newark Valley and Cortland, featuring craft demonstrations, music, food and various apple products. About 1,500 people attended the Newark Valley festival, organizers said.

In Ithaca, quilts splashed with vibrant colors and others pale and delicate, adorned large racks throughout the main exhibit room of the Women's Community Building.

The show was sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Guild member and show chairman Barbara Dimock said she was happy with the turnout. "We've had a lot of people

asking about the guild, and we hope to get some new members." Dimock said shows not only promote quilting, but also the sharing that is inherent in the art.

Although the show attracted many experienced quilters, many non-seamstresses were there, too. "Oh, I avoid a needle and thread like the plague," said one visitor. "But I love to just look."

Visitors to the show were invited to vote for their favorite quilt in four categories. For an antique quilt, a pure white bride's quilt made in 1842 was chosen. It was from the collection of Ithacan Marion Howe.

A trapunto jacket, from the collection of Jeanne Riley of Camillus, won viewers' choice in the clothing category. In the contemporary category, "Delectable Mountain Redbud," a quilt designed and sewn by Nancy Ann Sobel of Brooktondale captured first place.

Guild president Eleanor Ab-Turn to AUTUMN, Page 5

Quilts, Of Course!

"It's quite interesting seeing all the different types of quilts that are possible," says Brigid Hubberman, a member of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, which is sponsoring an entire "Quilt Weekend" opening this Friday, October 11, and ending Sunday evening, October 13. The following is a list of events, times, and places for the show which this year is entitled, "Quilts, Of Course!"

- Quilts will be on display at the Women's Community Building on Friday from 6-9 p.m.; on Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

- On Saturday, Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham, two well-known quiltmakers, will be featured in a lecture entitled "The Artistic Aspects of Quilting" at Central Casting Theater, 115 North Cayuga St.

The lecture takes place from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.

- "The Frear Family Quilt Collection," a slide show, will be shown also on Saturday at the DeWitt Historical Museum located in Clinton House at 116 N. Cayuga St. from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

- On Sunday at 1:30 p.m., the movie, *Quilts in Women's Lives* plays at the Hinckley Museum at 410 E. Seneca St. Admission is 75¢.

- The DeWitt Historical Museum will also have a quilt display on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A quilt drawing will take place on Sunday. Some lucky person will go home with a beautiful quilt made by members of the Guild. Throughout the entire weekend the Johnson Museum will display folk art objects.

Continued from Page 3
 bott's "Executive Board in the Oak Room" won in the less-than-bedsize category.

The Apple Harvest Weekend, on The Commons and sponsored by the Downtown Ithaca Business Association, also yielded a

good crowd, said chairman Jean Deming. "The Commons is not only the center of our commercial district," Deming said, "it's also like our city's stage."



Guild area of the show. Guild members could sell their own creations here.



Grace McQueen gives a reverse appliqué demonstration during the show.



Co-Chair Margie Bracewell announces award winners.

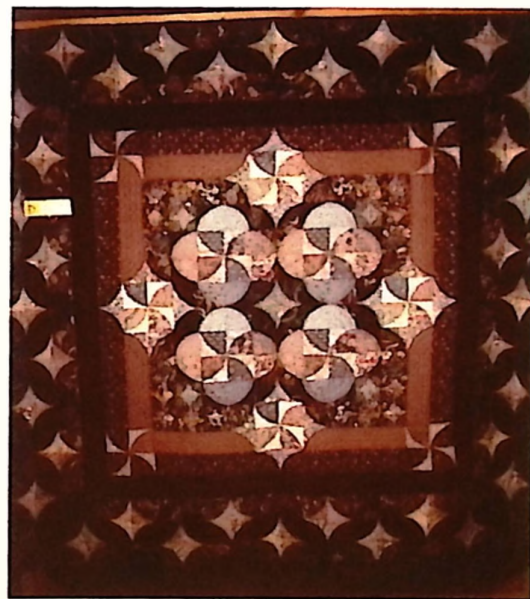
Public was invited to display their quilted clothing at the fashion show.



Gwen Marston and Joe Cunningham Lecture
 "The Artistic Aspects of Quilting"



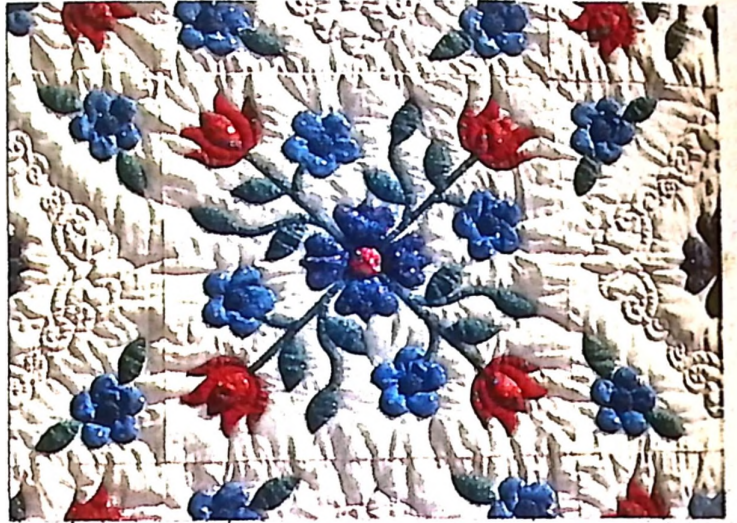
Special Exhibit
 by invitation



Clockwise starting top left:
 "Bete Noire Log Cabin Variation"
 by Maria McCormick-Snyder
 "February Fantasy"
 by Judy B. Dales
 "Splendor of the Rajahs"
 by Nancy Drum



*Raffle - 1985 - Country Garden
Won by Joelle Stilliones.*



Viewer's Choice Awards - 1985 ...

*Contemporary...
Delectable Mountain
Redbud by Nancy
Ann Sobel*



*← Less-than-bedsized...
Executive Board in the
Oak Room by
Eleanor Abbott*



*Clothing... →
Inapunto
Jacket by
Jeanne Riley*





*Dining Among the Quilts
Saturday following closing*



TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD PRESENTS
The Artistic Aspects of Quiltmaking
 by
MARSTON AND CUNNINGHAM
 No. Saturday, October 12, 1985 - 3:00 PM
 Central Casting Theater
 Rear of Masonic Temple on Seneca St.
 Ithaca, New York
 Admission \$2.00 No refunds - No exchanges



Gwenn Marston and
 Joe Cunningham
 tour the show

*Thank you for your letter. I was very
 proud to receive your award for my
 quilt last year at the State Fair.
 I'm very rarely in Ithaca, but I will
 keep in mind the days that you need. I'd
 love to stop in and meet the guild. (1985)*

1985
 State
 Fair -
 Bobbi
 Fuhrmann
 Lancaster
 N.Y.



↑
*Viewer's Choice - Antique...
 Bride's Quilt owned by
 Marion Howe*

PEOPLE 11/1/85 *Ithaca Journal*

By JEANNE CERQUONE
Journal Staff

WINNERS in the Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center's fourth annual juried quilt show *Quilts — Art — Quilts* will be honored at an awards ceremony open to the public at 8 p.m. Friday at the center, 205 Genesee St., Auburn. The exhibit will officially open Friday and be on display through December 31.

The show has gained a reputation for showcasing the talents of quiltmakers as works of art as well as examples of fine craftsmanship. A panel of judges based scores on skill in four areas: visual impact, color and design, construction and quilting. Talented Tompkins County quiltmakers will be presented many awards, running the gamut from Best in Show to Honorable Mention.

Nancy Ann Sobel of Brooktondale will receive the Best in Show award for her quilt *Delectable Mountain Redbud*. Sobel will receive a second-place award for a miniature log cabin quilted wall-hanging. An appliqued quilted wall-hanging commemorating her 25th anniversary, complete with 25 hearts, also will be on display.

The Judges Special Award will be given to Liese Brofenbrenner of Ithaca for her quilted wall-hanging *Mandrenke*. This work focuses on a theme of the legendary North Sea Coast floods of the 14th century. Accompanying literature describes the symbolism of the appliqued mythological figures in the artwork.

The first winner of a new award created for original fabric creation will be presented to Shirley Penman of Auburn. Penman stitched an unusual fabric that creates an optical illusion.

Other quilts on display include *Executive Board in the Oak Room*, a bird applique that pokes fun at the corporate business world, by Eleanor Abbott of Brooktondale.

Ithacan Patty Elwin Davis' work *Happy 150th Lone Star State* will receive an honorable mention in the professional quilt category and Wendy Grossman's *Rainbow Cross* will receive an honorable mention in the nonprofessional pieced nontraditional category.

Quilts by Elizabeth Mout, Nelda Kubat, Doraline Kesten, Seand Dineen, all of Ithaca and Tammy Sobel of Brooktondale will also be included in the show.

Three local women are among the winners in the Fifth Annual Juried Quilt Show at the Schweinfurth Art Center in Auburn. They are Patty E. Davis of Ithaca, whose quilt was the judges' choice in the pictorial category; Nancy Ann Sobel of Brooktondale, judges' choice for the best workmanship; Grace McQueen of Berkshire, honorable mention for a traditional quilted wall-hanging. Others taking part in the show were Mary Kay Campenot of Freeville; Doraline Kesten, Nelda Kubat, Barbara Phillips Long, and Mary Milne, all of Ithaca; and Tammy Sobel of Brooktondale. The Homespun Boutique of 101 The Commons was one of the sponsors of the show. 1986

LETTERS

Many hands stitched up a successful quilt show

The success of the recent quilt show, "Quilts, Of Course!" was due to the efforts of many people. On behalf of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, I would like to say "thank you":

To the many people who loaned quilts to be shown. There would have been no show without all of those beautiful quilts.

To the many volunteers who helped put the show up, worked during the show and took it all down at the end. Things would not have gone so smoothly without so many helping hands.

To the local merchants and banks who gave up space in their windows to expand our show by providing a mini-show on the Commons before and during Quilt Weekend.

To the Ithaca Journal and the Grapevine for their wonderful coverage of our show.

To all the countless others who have supported the Quilters Guild over the past year as we planned and prepared for "Quilts, Of Course!"

And finally, to the public for their interest and response. We had over 1,500 people visit the quilt show in the two days it was open. Many were local, but many also drove for several hours to come and see.

If I have missed anyone, please know that you were appreciated. Thank you and I hope to see you all at our next show in '87.

Caroline Barbara Dimock
Show chairman

Quilters turn stitching into joyful, elegant art

One of the most joyful exhibits to view that has hit Ithaca in recent years was "Quilts of Course."

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild did themselves proud. The exhibit, held at the Women's Community Building Oct. 11-13, must surely have been a thumping success in total viewers and satisfaction for each of the hard-working participants. They have raised this craft to an elegant art form.

The family pride evident in the involvement of this occupation, took noble form in the community spirit of cooperation this exhibit generated.

Ithaca needs much more of such efforts from other groups. This is a talented community that cares. Let's show it.

Don't miss this energetic group's next show in two years. It'll brighten your life. Congratulations, Quilters Guild.

W. Earle Tallmadge
Ithaca

"Birds" for retiring President Betty MacKenzie 1984



Friendship Blocks - 1985 for retiring President Eleanor Abbott

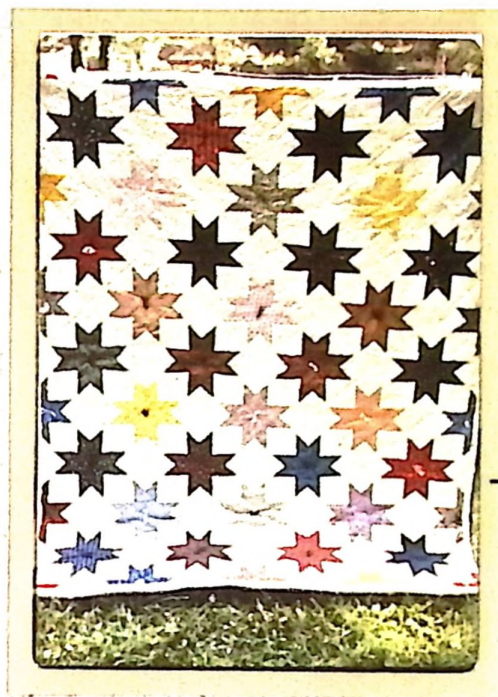
1986



Baby Quilts 1986

← Flying Geese
Ann Bayer

Stars
Brigid Hubberman →



State Fair - 1986
Faye Thompson
1341 Paddy Lane
Ontario NY 14579

Blues in the Night - 1986
Designed by Susan Heath
Ithaca Youth Bureau Fundraiser
won by Chris Alling



Quilters' Night

7 pm - Tuesday, September 9, 1986

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING

Corner West Seneca & Cayuga Streets
Ithaca, NY

Bring an old or new quilt to show
for an evening of quilt talk
with other quilt lovers.

Sponsored by
Tompkins County Quilters Guild

Phone 607-272-3150

FREE ADMISSION

Jr. 4-H Award 1986

Janelle Batkin

9 Patch Pillow



Thank you very much for awarding me with the Top Quilters award. I was very surprised and pleased to receive this award. I've spent the money in the craft store already. I was able to buy many nice things.

Thank you again for making it possible.

Sincerely,
Janelle Batkin



Teresa Holmes
Sampler

Sr. 4-H Award 1986

I just wanted to write a short note of thanks for the award that was presented to me for being the top senior quilter at the 1986 4-H Youth Fair.

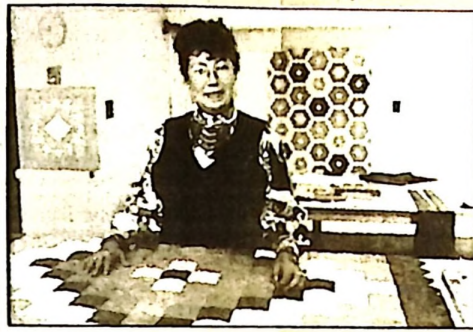
Thanks so much for the gift certificate. I plan on making my third quilt this year and your certificate will be helpful when purchasing the fabric.

Thankfully,
Teresa Holmes

PEOPLE

Making Quilts and Dreams

BY WILLOW ANN SOLTOW.
 It's true Shakespeare didn't have a quilt in mind when he mentioned the stuff dreams are made of. Maybe he should have. Quilts have been responsible for making more than a dream come true — at least for Lorraine Sack, owner of the newly opened shop Quilts and Things. "I've wanted to have a business of my own for twenty years," she observes. "Now my dream is a reality."
 Her new store, located at 310 State Street (next to Carpet Linazaar) is something of a dream come true for Ithaca quiltmakers and craftspersons, too. "There are so many people interested in quilts and sewing in this area," comments quiltmaker Virginia Fenton, "it's especially nice to have a shop now that caters to the quilter's special needs."
 One of those rare pleasures of living in Ithaca is the occasional discovery of a store that is more than just a store. Such is the case with this one. An avid quiltmaker herself, the owner is knowledgeable about the needs of quilters and needleworkers. Her shop is stocked with bolts of 100 percent cotton fabric and quilting supplies. In addition, the visitor can find gifts for people who sew, a variety of crafts sold on a very reasonable commission basis, lessons in quilt-making and a quilter's sewing bee — a kind of working support group in which needlewomen work on each other's quilts collectively to save time. There's also a quilt book lending library, a planned newsletter for sharing information, and plenty of free sewing advice to be had for the asking. "The one thing I don't have yet is a coffee pot," Sack apologizes. "But I'm working on it."
 In business only a month or so, she is "very encouraged" about the prospect of success. "I watched a researcher on television recently who said, 'Widow women who go into business make it,'" she laughs. "The mother of two grown sons, Sack says her husband and children have been very supportive. "I told my



'When I was growing up, there was always a quilt on my mother's frame.'

—Lorraine Sack, owner of Quilts 'n Things

small amount of fabric. "It's all I need," she says shyly. "I'm only making a pillow."
 "I never mind when people want a quarter yard of this or a quarter yard of that," says Sack. "I know from making projects myself what it's like. You don't want to buy a lot of fabric if you're making something small. After all, what would you do with all that extra cloth?" She is pleased with the fabric selection her store has to offer. "A number of customers have commented that I have a lot more than the three primary colors. I've tried to stock fabrics that I like."
 Sewing is more than just a hobby for Lorraine Sack. It's a family legacy. "When I was growing up, there was always a quilt on my mother's frame. She was a quiltmaker too. Like her, I'd rather sew than do just about anything else." That family background, combined with her desire to run a business of her own, convinced Sack to open Quilts and Things.
 Running her own business brings many rewards. "I just love creating items every morning. If you give something you get on much more in return. The shop is my way of giving. — And it's given me a whole new life," she explains.
 Keeping her own quilt shop carefully stocked gives Sack an opportunity to promote the use of good quality materials. "Quilting is an American tradition that should be preserved," she observes. "It is an artistic expression of the individual. It shouldn't be done using standardized materials." She points out that, with time, bargain brands of fabric and thread can wear out, pill, fade or even melt under the iron. "If you're not going to use good quality materials in a craft project, why bother making it at all?" she asks.
 An expert needlewoman for most of her life, Lorraine Sack made her first quilt in 1979. It won first prize that year at the quilt show sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild. "Just had for a first time," she chuckles. Area quiltmakers hope Lorraine Sack's first try at running a quilt shop is just as successful.

boys I'm using up their inheritance. They said, 'That's fine, Mom. Go right ahead.' The members of the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild have also given me lots of moral support," says Sack. "They've been wonderful." It is a Wednesday — generally a slow day according to many area merchants. Yet there have been a number of customers in the past hour. Lorraine Sack listens patiently, offering suggestions as one woman agonizes over which fabric to use in a wall hanging she is planning. Two other customers purchase quarter-yard lengths of richly colored cotton. One of them asks if it is okay to buy such a

Ithaca Times December 18, 1986

Guild Members in the News

Lorraine Sack Willow Ann Soltow Ruth Him Judi Heath Sally Kern

PEOPLE

Ithaca Journal - 4/87

By SUSAN SWEETNAM
Journal Staff

TWO NEW QUILTING BOOKS written by Ithaca resident Willow Ann Soltow can be found in local bookstores. Soltow is a member of the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild.

Her book, "The Kids' Very Own Quilt Book," teaches basic quilt making in language young people can understand. And for more advanced quilters, Soltow has written "Making Animal Quilts: Patterns and Projects."



Soltow

**Making Animal Quilts:
Patterns and Projects**

Willow Ann Soltow

An ownership switch in time saved quilting business

By BARBARA DELOAN KENNY
Kenny Staff

VERNA — Lorraine Sack was ready to hang up her needles and throw in the towel. Quilting her own quilt shop was more than the dream she had for a long time. But then she met Willow Ann Soltow. The two women met at members of the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild. When Sack's new business in Ithaca was too much for her to run single-handedly, they offered their advice and their business plan. "I had a lot of help," Sack said. "I had a lot of help."

After sharing the job of running the shop and teaching classes, the new owners don't know how Sack managed about making it so fast. Her husband and David Heath bought a house in Ithaca and after a few months, Sack and Heath moved to Ithaca as well. Sack and Heath bought a house in Ithaca and after a few months, Sack and Heath moved to Ithaca as well. Sack and Heath bought a house in Ithaca and after a few months, Sack and Heath moved to Ithaca as well.

The shop owners point out that there has been a revival of interest in quilting in recent years. The shop walls are filled with items that make quilting easier. Quilters have moved from paper and cardboard templates, or patterns, to clear plastic ones that allow quilters to see through to fabric, patterns, finished or unfinished quilts. Quilters now use a rotary cutter, similar to a pizza wheel, to cut fabric. The quilters agree that in addition to providing a form of expression, quilting is a sharing activity. Quilting was a social outlet and a source for women living difficult lives in early America, Kern said. "It will show the same thing today," she said. The two women find a similar outlet through quilting at the shop. In a new letter mailed to local writers, the

Quilting

(Continued from Page 1C)
 shop lists 14 full quilting courses for the beginner and the expert. Classes are growing in numbers and complexity, Sack said. Rosette Hill of Ithaca made her first quilt through a class in Soltow's Things. The quilt will be shown in the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild 1987 Show. "Quilts of Course," scheduled for October. The shop owners praise Hill's natural color sense. "These women really encourage individuality and making it your own piece," Hill said. Sack finds that customers often become friends. "This is a business that I feel goes something to people," she said. The quilters even bring an international touch to their teaching. Because of the large trading and faculty population in Ithaca, quilters from all over the world have taken classes at the shop. Class participants from Japan, Switzerland, France and Germany are aware of the long history of American quilting. Foreign visitors may speak only quilting as a common language, but shop owners offer a few on-site barriers through Sack's fluent German and Kern's knowledge of Spanish. All of the centers speak a little bit of French. In addition to belonging to the local quilter's guild, the shop owners enjoy passing quilters from all over the country at quilt shows, markets where, as shop owners, they do not teach and attend workshops on quilting and the teaching of quilting. One of the partners, Kern, will miss the social aspect of quilting and her part in the business when she leaves the area because of her husband's job. "When I moved to Ithaca, I knew no one," she said. "I was very shy and I found the quilter's guild." As soon as Kern reached her new home, she hopes to find a similar network of people by contacting the local quilter's guild. **Quilting events set** Local quilters keep busy with more than stitching. They also set busy teaching the craft and working to recognize and preserve quilting as a historic art form. Many of them also have joined the Tompkins County Quilter's



QUILT CLASH: Lorraine Sack, Ruth Him, Judi Heath, and Sally Kern pose with a quilt at their new store on State Street in Ithaca.

may to have their New York state quilt regional and photographed on the day. Quilts must be made in New York before 1940 and owners should bring documentation about their quilts. Organize also will provide information on quilt preservation. The day, dedicated to recognizing the history of quilts and quilting, is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 at Ithaca High School. The New York Quilt Project, Quilt Day is sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild in cooperation with the Museum of American Folk Art in New York City. A book review of the New York Quilt Project will take place at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the Women's Community Building, 130 W. Seneca St. (Dress as you wish.) Volunteering is welcome and may attend. For information call Ruth Him at 272-1515 or Mary Fenton at 272-1515. The quilt is sponsoring several events this fall for quilters, including: * Quilt Day — Quilters and quilt centers will have an opportunity

Ithaca Journal
"Our Town" feature
September 12, 1989

Guild Members in the News

Betty MacKenzie
Nancy Ann Sobel

GALLERY

Rediscovering Folk Art

*"Ties That Bind: Four Folk Artists of Tompkins County,"
at the DeWitt Historical Society, March 12-Jan. 1.*

GEORGE HOLETS

In January 1987 a quilt brought \$176,000 at a Sotheby's auction. The quilt auctioned at Sotheby's was folk art. Impressive folk art. It possessed age, pedigree — known as "provenance" — and a meaningful artistic expression tied to a specific communal and cultural background. Now before you dash out to purchase fabric, quilting hoops and a how-to-quilt book, you should be aware that you are about to teach yourself a revival craft. Your quilt may end up a beautiful work of art, but it will not be folk-art — at least not in the purist, academic and the art merchant.

Folklorists agree on the general criteria defining folk art: the artist must have informal training or serve an apprenticeship; the tools used and materials worked must be immediately at hand; the artist and his or her product must profess an ethnocentric bias; the product must embody a strong sense of community and maintain community standards; and finally the product must manifest the artist's aesthetic consideration. You and your quilt will fall outside most, if not all, of these measures.

The work of Betty MacKenzie of Lansing, N.Y., qualifies as folk art. She quilts, braids rags, and uses chairs following methods traditional to her family and community. Betty MacKenzie's life and art make up one-fourth of the DeWitt Historical Society's new exhibit "Ties That Bind: Four Folk Artists of Tompkins County." The exhibit chronicles the lives and work of Steve Kinski, King Gorgey and Dick Durkin, as well as of Betty MacKenzie. Curator Ellen Baker Wikstrom structures the exhibit around folk art's four universal elements: community, artistic expression, tradition and transmission (how the art is taught and learned). She uses one artist to demonstrate each element, although she is quick to point out that all the artists works possess the four elements.

MacKenzie's materials, mostly rag scraps, food, jellies, jams and clothing. Consciously or unconsciously she incorporates the past into the present; and has adopted her mother's penchant for tied quilts, having begun to quilt with the running stitch only after her last child left home.

A member of the Tompkins County Quilters' Guild and active in the Lansing United Methodist Church, she uses her quilts for community fund raising. Giving, sharing and teaching are part and parcel of her being. And the community applauds her artistry by providing her with supplies. The left over her garage stands as testimony to her community's love and support. It is filled to the brim with donated fabric. Her life richly married with aesthetics, community and tradition speak not only to her neighbors, but to everyone's need for a sense of place and history.

The quilt you make may have artistic life. Betty's quilt is a page torn from life. When you come by one of her quilts through church raffle or school bazaar, you get Betty's past and present. Betty's family and friends and their collective life; Betty's physical environment in bits of Lansing detritus — old dish towels, window curtains, clothing and bed linens; and ultimately Betty's artistry. Here lies the difference between fine art

and folk art: fine art observes life, mirrors life, even comments on and critiques life; folk art simply is life.

Shown here sewing braids of a rag to-gather, Betty is first and foremost a teacher. She taught third grade in the Southern Cayuga Central School District and managed to include a healthy dose of rag braiding and quilting along with the "three R's." Always at work on a project, people ask her about her methods constantly, and when Betty responds, she cannot help teaching.

Betty MacKenzie's life is epitomized by her thrift and self-sufficiency. Her mother's frugality carries over into her own work; she is an avid recycler, almost never buying fabric. In addition to quilts and rags, she makes covered

Our Special Person

BETTY MAC KENZIE

spends a lot of time making quilts for family, others, or with her church group. As a retired school teacher she has used her skills at Up-State Crafts Fair & Cayuga Nature Center in classes for children. Caning and rug braiding are two other crafts she shares with others. Betty is a founder and past-president of Tompkins Co. Quilters Guild. On April 1 at Displaced Homemakers 10th anniversary Betty will be honored in a tribute to women of Tompkins County.

Quilts 'n Things
newsletter Spring
1987



Mary Ann Sobel of Brooktondale won Best in Show in 1985 with this appliqued quilt she calls "Delectable Mountain Red."

5th Annual Quilt Show
Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center, Auburn

Quiltmaking is a woman's art born from a marriage of cold necessity and the usefulness of colorful scraps. While some modern quilts still fulfill the traditional function of warming bodies and colorfully covering cribs and beds, just as many are hung vertically for their color and

impact. In the 1980s quilts are art. The Schweinfurth Art Center, a regional cultural resource opened in 1981, recognizes this fact and is holding their 5th Annual Quilt Show from Nov. 8-Dec. 31.

Last year, 119 quilts and quilted wall-hangings from quiltmakers throughout New York State and across the country were on display for the two month exhibition period. According to Kristlin Hauge, administrative assistant at the Schweinfurth, this year there are over 135 entries from 85-95 quilters. Because any work previously entered in a Schweinfurth Art Center Quilt Show is not eligible, expect to see some of the latest work from the area's best known quiltmakers. Traditional and non-traditional entries in both professional and non-professional categories have been juried by a panel of professional quiltmakers. Scores are based on workmanship, color and design, quilting, and overall visual impact.

The Schweinfurth Art Center is located at 205 Genesee Street in Auburn, NY and is open Tues.-Fri. 12-5, Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 1-5.

Finger Lakes
Magazine
Fall 1986
(correction to the
caption: Nancy Ann
Sobel.)

Quilt Fever

BRENDA L. BAKER

It used to be the frugal pioneering spirit that kept women stitching and recycling tattered dresses and trousers into quilts. That and the quest for warmth and household decoration. It used to be that quilts were displayed in the home, warming mattresses in the corners of small bedrooms. There they could be seen by family members, an occasional guest or neighbor. And it used to be that this clever combination of recycled fabrics and materials of the home and sewing room was considered pure craft.

But the past fifteen years has seen a drastic change in the way quilting has been displayed and perceived by both the public and arts communities across the country. Quilters today are appreciated for more than rudimentary craft. Today their work is seen by many as an elevated art form. Quiltmakers today are also using their own medium as a form of personal expression.

The Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center in Auburn is no stranger to these facts. Presently sponsoring its fifth annual juried quilt show, entitled "Quilts = Art = Quilts," the Schweinfurth has

outdone itself in pulling together a most unique and highly varied quilt show. With work from professional and non-professional quiltmakers from New York and across the country, the variety of styles, subject matter, materials, and messages is unsurpassed.



The "Broken Star Bouquet," a quilt by Nancy Ann Sobel of Brooktondale, won Best Workmanship in the Professional Traditional category.

In the traditional pieced quilt category, where quilts are generally stitched from early American patterns, Carol Soderland of Geneva took first place honors with her quilt "Inheritance." The largest quilt in the show, Soderland's piece was made from her mother's clothing as both a remembrance and a reminder of the love for needlework that Soderland's mother instilled in her. This desire to open up personal diaries, to share life memories, and to share the love for quilting with others is the one element that ties all these quilters together.

Perhaps even more exciting for the quilting community, however, are the non-traditional pieces that have been entered in the show. With these pieces, the artists have explored beyond the former bounds of traditional quilting methods and styles and delved into their own personal lives to find rich quilting material. Two Ithacans, Nancy Ann Sobel and Patty E. Davis, have both won awards for expanding the confines of tradition. Sobel, last year's Best of Show Award Winner, took high honors once again in the Auburn show, walking away with the Judges Choice Award for Best Workmanship. Her quilt, "Broken Star Bouquet," is an ambitious undertaking that took over 13 months and 1,200 hours to complete. Sobel's quilt will remain in her family. The design and manipulation of floral arrangements with brightly colored fabric sends off a feeling of self-assurance and contentment.

Third-time award winner Patty E. Davis has taken a more pictorial approach to her quilted wall hanging and Judge's Choice Award winning piece, "Homage to Shakespeare with 'Wonder Great as My Content'." A longtime fan of Shakespeare, Davis recently returned from a semester in England, where she was able to surround herself with Shakespearean plays and information. This experience most definitely influenced Davis' decision to do a quilt revolving around Othello. Many of her other pictorial wall hangings deal with Latin American motifs, as she has spent considerable time living in Latin American countries.

On a more whimsical note, Patricia Smarzo deals with a pictorial theme in her award winning "Playtime Pals" quilt, which was entered in the traditional non-professional applique category. Smarzo's quilt divides the quilting space into 11 different sized boxes, each one a separate scene of children playing. The realistic and textured clothing that each child wears is what gives this piece such charm.

Bless Sullivan from Cheshire, Connecticut, also deals with the pictorial scene in her Judge's Choice Award Winner, "Madison Avenue Blues." This piece is a funny, almost cynical look at the corporate structure system set up from a one-point perspective. In the piece, featureless individuals become fewer as floors of the office building ascend.

Karen Berkenfeld's non-traditional wall hanging in gentle pastel colors also breaks with convention by questioning the limitations of the borders. In this piece, a rectangular bar comes out of the lower left hand corner, disregarding the border and giving a feeling of movement to the entire piece. Her work is both rhythmic and lyrical in the way it also suggests movement through use of curvilinear stitches. Berkenfeld's work is like an abstract painting. Muff Johnston's "January Thaw" is another work that acts as if the fabric itself were paint. Doraline Kesten from Ithaca, in her non-traditional wall hanging "Veins of Gold," also deals with design elements and basic composition questions in her piece. Kesten's work combines an interesting array of fall colors with calicos, solids and metallic-like fabric. Another Kesten work, "Straight Furrows," is entered in the pieced traditional category.

Some of the quilts and wall hangings in the show break convention by becoming cityscapes, landscapes, and seascapes. Mary Milne, another Ithacan, who has been quilting for seven years, is a first-time exhibitor at the Schweinfurth Show this year. Her piece, "Rooftops," is a view from her studio window overlooking the State Street Theater. Milne normally keeps with figurative and architectural themes in her work and makes use of highly textured fabric. Her work has been shown most recently at the ABC Cafe. Candy Crider's "Butterfly Valley" and Joyce Murrin's pieces also stick with the landscape theme, but break new ground in their varied approaches.

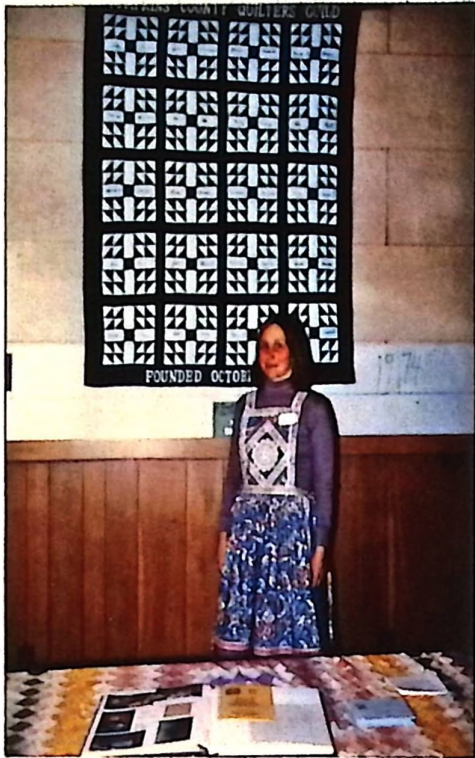
Intertwining historical subject matter into her work, Jeanne Riley from Camillus has taken third place for her beautifully crafted non-traditional wall hanging "Byzantine." Riley's choice of fabrics and inventive way of organizing fabric gives one the feeling of looking up at the ceiling of a Byzantine church.

All in all, the Schweinfurth has done more than one could ask for in bringing together the necessary elements to host a highly polished quilt show. "Quilts = Art = Quilts" is a remarkable balance of traditional and modern quilts which will open many eyes to exciting new dimensions. □



Nancy Sobel

1987



Womens' History Week 1987

Lisa Turner presented a program about the guild.

Judi Heath shares information about the guild at Women's History Week.

JEAN V. JOHNSON



REPRESENTATIONAL

QUILTMaking

Lecture with slides and quilts
by

Jean V. Johnson of New Jersey

Friday, March 27, 1987 - 7 pm

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING

100 West Seneca Street

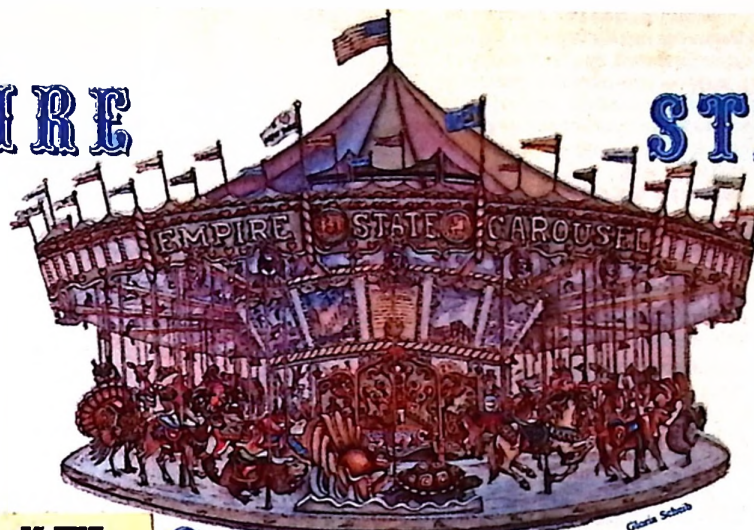
Ithaca, NY 14850

Admission: \$3.00 at the door



EMPIRE

STATE



AND WHAT, PRAY TELL, IS THE EMPIRE STATE CAROUSEL?

For those of you who are not familiar with the Empire State Carousel, we offer some brief background.

The Empire State Carousel is the first full-sized, hand-carved carousel to be made in America since the days of the Great Depression. Although it will be true to the traditions of our great American carousel carvers, this merry-go-round has been specially designed as a unique showpiece for New York State history and culture.

All the elements of the Empire State Carousel are based on New York themes. Riders will sit astride animals native to our state — a deer and a wild turkey are just a few of the 24 creatures being carved. The band organ will play tunes like "Shuffle off to Buffalo" and "Sidewalks of New York." The scenery panels will display such majestic vistas as Niagara Falls and the Albany skyline. Our rich store of folklore will be illustrated by characters like Rip Van Winkle and Leatherstocking. Along the top of the carousel will be portrait panels of prominent New Yorkers like Eleanor Roosevelt. State songbirds will perch on the rafters and the entire carousel will be topped off by an array of colorful flying pennants, each bearing the name of one of our 62 counties.

CAROUSEL

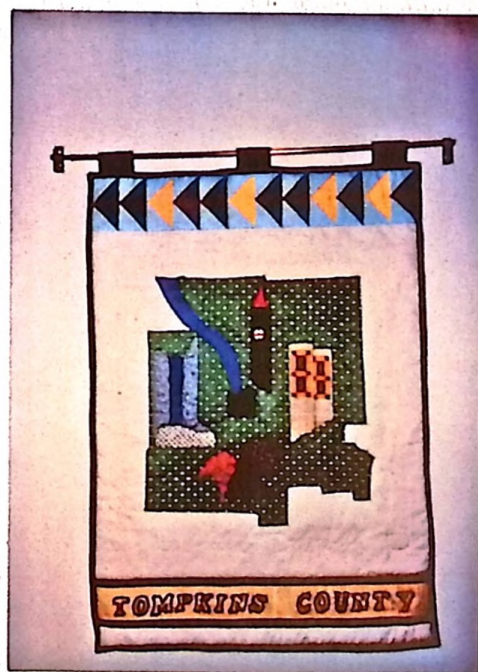
NEW YORK QUILTERS CLIMB ABOARD THE ESC

Miniature quilts made by New York State quilting societies are the latest addition to the Carousel. Borrowing an idea from the old English roundabouts which had wooden heraldic shields attached to the sweeps (rafters), we have decided to hang small quilts from the carousel's top canopy supports.

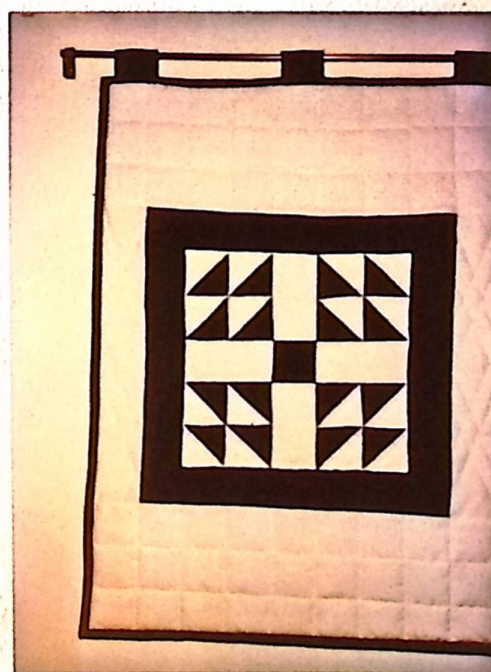
Quilting societies from all over the State are being asked to create a miniature quilt (apprx. 20" x 30") that shows a scene or design appropriate to their region. So far, the Calico Goose Quilters of Sullivan County, the Common Threads Quilters of Vestal and the Long Island Quilters of Nassau County have promised quilts for the Guild Hall Show.

If you would like more information and quilting guidelines, write to the ESC at P.O. Box 565, Islip, N. Y. 11751 or simply call Gerry Holzman at (516) 277-6168.

TCQG's
contribution
to the
Empire State
Carousel
1987



Front



Back

THE FINE ART OF QUILTING

moving through the winding course of history like a thread, one comes to the inevitable conclusion that quilt making has always been a part of the human experience.

The Chinese quilted cloth to make their padded clothing. Thirteenth and fourteenth century European women turned their families away from the bitter cold winter by making quilts. And the Mayflower gang of 1620 had as many quilts in their baggage as pilgrims on the deck.

Men have even sown a place on the quilted pages of history. During the Civil War, hospitals used quilt making as a form of therapy for soldiers recovering from injuries.

The nation's first First Lady, Martha Washington, kept 20 quilts on the end of the guest room bed so that visitors could use and admire them.

May 9, 1987 is a day for all area residents to bring their quilts to the Women's Community Building at the corner of Cayuga and Seneca Streets in Ithaca for the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, Inc.'s Selection Day.

All day long, the Selection Committee will view the quilts and take pictures. Then, after a few weeks, they will send detailed notification letters citing the procedure to follow in showing the quilts at the TCQG's "Quilt, Of Course" from October 16-18, 1987.

Somewhere in the crowds on May 9, one may find two Lansing women both past presidents of TCQG named Betty MacKenize and Lisa Turner.

A kind, gentle, and giving woman, Betty MacKenize's quilting history encompasses both the making of quilts for warm bedding during the 1940's wartime rationing period in the present period of creatively piecing together a family-member quilt with woven hand prints and signatures for sheer pleasure and the next family reunion in July.

The 20 plus quilts that Betty has made mostly in the last five years as a retired schoolteacher, have been given away as friendship gifts. Once you understand the lack of a time schedule in quilt making, you'll comprehend her statement that she has "20 more under construction."

Memories of time gone by, when Betty's quilting experience includes her childhood experience of dyeing the cloth milk can strainers for quilting and also using the printed flour, chicken, and feed sacks add to appreciation this woman has for broad scope of this art.

A stone's throw from Betty's house lives Lisa Turner. Lisa can make the most traditional quilt or the most unusual. Her brother, a California surfer, gave her a picture of Rincon, a classic surfing point and asked Lisa to make this majestic blue scene.

For President Emeritus of Cornell University, Deane W. Mollett, Lisa made an entire quilt out of his many silk ties. And she just completed this fall, a red and white quilt for the past President of the Board of Cornell University, Robert W. Purcell.

Quilting, as an art form, can be best seen in the attitude and work of Lisa Turner.

"Quilters may no longer need to make quilts solely for thrift and utility, but we still need to create beauty in our lives and to make visible signs of our love for each other," says Lisa.

Sharing is a major part of the Turner household. While her husband shares his enjoyment for comic books, Lisa's brilliant work and enthusiasm has captured the imaginations of their sons, Billy, age 7½, and Dougie, age 5.

One day, Billy announced to his family that he was going to make a quilt. And a quilt he made for his friend, a teddy bear named Beady.

He can tell you about his quilts and he can tell you about his softball program at Lansing Elementary School.

"I usually hit a single. But once I hit a double right down the third base line," says Billy proving that athlete's can enjoy quilting.

While interviewing Billy, his brother Dougie seized the opportunity to tell his mother and brother that he will be making a quilt out of his handmade toy ghosts.

Naming quilts is another dimension of this fine art. And perhaps one can name Dougie's quilt, "Dougie's Dream."

Entry forms for May 9th can be picked up at Quilts 'n Things, 210 W. State St., Ithaca.

And if you are like Dougie Turner just on the verge of making your first quilt, Lorraine Sack, owner of Quilts 'n Things, gives classes on this art. For more information, call Lorraine at 277-6831. *Dryden Dailor Sever 4/14/87*

Tompkins County Quilts

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild is sponsoring two events: a quilt block contest October 16-18 and a selection day May 9. Anyone may bring new and antique quilts, quilted clothing or other quilt-related items to selection day from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Women's Community Building. Quilts will be selected for the October quilt show. Quilt show submissions must be in by August 8. For details, send self-addressed stamped envelope to: Ruth Him, 1217 Dryden Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850. For information about both events: 272-3150 or 272-6831.



Betty MacKenize-Block Bird Quilt



Billy Turner-With Teddy Bear's Quilt

A call for quilts

Ithaca Journal 4/11/87

"We're making a call for quilts from Tompkins County and the surrounding area for our coming show," said Judi Heath, president of the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild. The guild is seeking individuals to bring their own quilts, quilted clothing and quilt-related items to a "Selection Day" on Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St. "Members of the guild will be on hand to speak with quilt owners," Heath said. "The owners will be asked to show their quilts and, if possible, tell a little something about them." A selection committee will make its decision on which quilts to include in the annual show, entitled "Quilts, of Course!" which will run October 16-18 at the Women's Community Building.

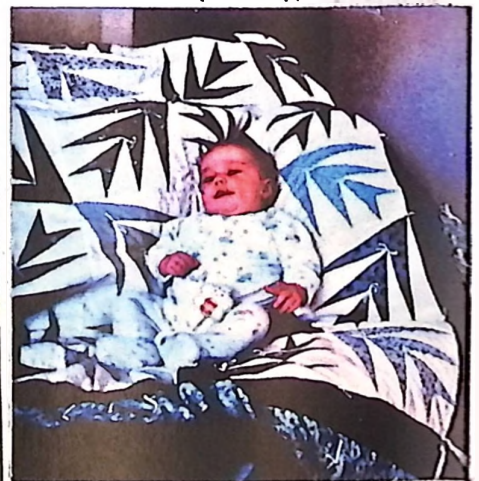
For more information call Judi Heath at 257-4755.

Tompkins County Quilts

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild is sponsoring two events: a quilt block contest October 16-18 and a selection day May 9. Quilt show submissions must be in by August 8 for the October show. For information about both events: 272-3150 or 272-6831. *Lorraine S. 4/14/87*

Baby Quilts

← Lori Coon 1987
Catin's Quilt
Jo Dee Russo
April's Hosanna



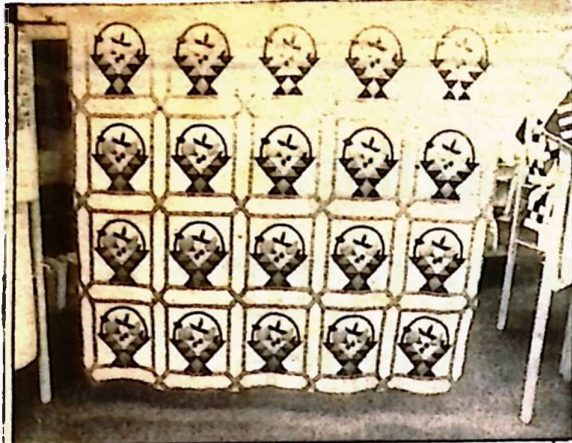
Womens Community Bldg.
Fundraiser - →
Flying Geese
(Detail below) → 1987



Detail



Quilt Show 1987



TO BE RAFFLED: Fruit Basket Maze quilt.

The Ithaca Times - 10/17

They're Quilt-y

BY NANCY HOETZLEIN

Their canvas consists of bed-sized pieces of material, their paints are fascinating little samples of prints, stripes, shadings or other colorful bits of cloth, and their brushes are small needles attached to nearly invisible strands of thread. A fellowship consisting primarily of women, quilters in America are experiencing a resurgence of energy and interest in a field which has traditionally provided a satisfying means of self-expression. This weekend, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild will sponsor "Quilts, Of Course," a show

which will include the works of many regional quilters.

We are all familiar with the image of six or eight women sitting around a large quilt, sewing and gossiping. To the nearly 40 members of the Guild, that scene is a reality in the historical sense, but with a depth that an outsider rarely appreciates. Twice a month, on Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9:30, Ithaca quilters gather in the Women's Community Building to provide technical knowledge, share skills, offer moral support and inspire each other. They are sharing one of the few crafts that lends itself to group participation. Idle gossip is not, and probably never has been, the purpose of these intimate gatherings. Quilting is an art which takes many years to master, and can only be done successfully with patient concentration.

As with any visual medium, each quilter approaches the craft with different goals, ideals and techniques. There are the traditionalists who follow standard patterns, while the more daring

create innovative designs with unusual colors. Some quilters approach the work as a relaxing hobby, while others view it as a challenging outlet for artistic expression. In the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, there is room for all viewpoints and for all levels of proficiency. Most completed quilts are given as gifts to family and friends. Some are sold to folks seeking beautiful and practical bedding. A rare few become recognized as objects of art, quite apart from any functional use.

From October 16-18, the Ithaca community will have an opportunity to learn more about this fascinating branch of fiber arts through an exhibition which will take place at the Women's Community Building beginning at 6pm on Friday and running until 5pm on Sunday. Included will be more than 150 antique and contemporary quilts and quilted items, plus ongoing demonstrations of piecework and applique techniques.

Having encouraged regional quilters for many years, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild is committed to quality. Since hosting the 1976 Bicentennial show which represented all groups in the Finger Lakes with 600 quilts and a full week of guest lecturers, the Guild has established itself as a group recognized for high standards. Excellence of design and workmanship are priorities in the selection of quilts for showing and judging. Every two years the Guild presents shows with a variety of quilts made by quilters of diverse ages and occupations. This year a contest on the theme of leaves and trees has brought 25 entries submitted according to specifications. In addition, a Fruit Basket Maze quilt has been made as this year's raffle item to raise funds for the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Within the fellowship which has long been an anonymous association, quilters are now engaged in a crusade that encourages the artist to sign and date each item. The skill required to execute a quality quilt is becoming recognized by an increasing number of critics. To join

the Tompkins County Quilters Guild virtually no experience is required. A newcomer will be taught from scratch if necessary, but will above all be swept into the warmth and security of the quilts. These women are sensitively and masterfully creating works in an atmosphere which has not lost its sentimental appeal in an age of fast foods and aggressive career moves. There still exists a need to make useful items by hand which will retain a lasting beauty for many generations and in many situations. □

photo:Randi Anglin

Ithaca quilter pieces together a tradition

By Patrick Graham

ITHACA — Ever since her grandmother taught her how to mend a sock years ago when she was just 4 years old, Nancy Sobel has never forgotten the simple pleasures and rewards she gets from using a needle and thread.

"Sewing is something that's fun for me. I'm challenging myself and I can work with my hands," explains Noble, who has progressed over the years from sewing patches on to pants and skirts to creating award-winning quilts and quilt wall hangings.

She describes herself as a "homemaker who loves to quilt," and her years of hard work and dedication finally paid off when her summer quilt came in first place at this year's New York State Fair as the judges' choice for "best in the show."

SINCE 1981, the first time she decided to enter her quilts in competition, Noble has won close to 15 awards region-wide for her quilts, which she calls the product of her "labor of love."

On Friday, Oct. 16, Sobel and a hundred or so other area quilters will place their painstakingly constructed quilts on display for the public to see at the 11th annual Tompkins County Quilt Show here in the Women's Community Building.

On Sunday when the three-day event comes to a close, the public will be asked to choose a winner.

In addition, there will be ongoing demonstrations of the traditional as well as modern quilting techniques. Quilting supplies will be available and one lucky quilt holder will go home with a basket quilt.

"QUILT MAKING is the link between generations and people of different backgrounds and interests," says Brigitte Hobbinsman, the show's organizer and a seasoned quilt maker herself. "So many people tell of the pleasure of living with a quilt made by their great-grandmothers."

The quilt show began here in 1976, as a salute to the nation's 200th birthday and to the ageless tradition of quilt making. An unprecedented number of over 600 quilts were entered into the first show from all over the state.

At about that time, Sobel became interested in quilts. In what may be called beginners' luck, she won her first award for "piecework" six years ago at the Tompkins County Quilt Show.

The quilt show will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday and will run until 8 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, the show will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

Herald American
October 11, 1987

QUILT SHOW FEATURES REAL GEMS, 12B

Weekend's 'Quilts of Course' show includes a N.Y. State Fair winner.

The Ithaca Journal
Thursday, October 15, 1987

Quilt Guild shows its finest

More than 150 quilts — including "Broken Star Bouquet," a quilt that captured top honors at the New York State Fair this year — will be featured at "Quilts of Course," the Tompkins County Quilt Guild's 1987 show.

The show will open at 6 p.m., Friday, at the Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St., and will continue Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

The show includes both contemporary and antique quilts, miniature quilts and quilted clothing. Among the quilts to be displayed is a Trumansburg history quilt made by Gayla Miller's 4th-grade class.

"Broken Star Bouquet," made by Brooktondale resident Nancy Sobel, won first place in the pieced and applique category at the State Fair, and was also

Quilts, Of Course!

- WHERE: Women's Community Building
- WHEN: Friday, Oct. 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- ADMISSION: \$2 (1) senior citizens and children

selected Judge's Choice for best workmanship.

People who attend the show will be able to vote for their favorite work in four categories: antique, contemporary, wallhanging and clothing. These viewer's choice awards will be given to exhibitors Sunday.

There will also be a drawing for "Fruit Basket Maze" (at right) a pieced and applique quilt made by members of the Tompkins County Quilt Guild.



Nancy Sobel: Quilter Extraordinaire

Brooktondale resident has made her mark with award-winning quilts.

write up
on show
preview

KAREY SOLOMON

The visitor to the Sobel house in Brooktondale knows immediately that this family appreciates traditional handicrafts. From the handmade rugs on the floor to the quilted tapestries to the hammered dulcimer Ted Sobel is building in the family room, the home conveys the beauty and usefulness of what can be created with hand and heart.

Like craftspeople of ages past whose work is shaped by a blend of aesthetics and necessity, the timeless quality of Nancy Ann Sobel's award-winning quilts is due in part to uncounted hours invested in assembling the best possible materials, drafting a workable design, cutting and piecing exactly, and in painstaking quilting. A shy, private person joyously focused on being a homemaker, Nancy Sobel finds quilting a spiritual celebration. "You use every part of yourself in quilting," she explains. "A quilter has to use her head to think about a design, her heart to choose the colors and her hands to make it happen." In addition, for her, the whole experience is pervaded with a spiritual awareness of God making all of this possible. "Because we're created in the image of God and God is creative... The quilting is an expression of what's in me. I can't not quilt," she says.

An interest in quilting evolved organically out of Sobel's experience with other fiber arts and a strong determination to make things that were beautiful, difficult and perfect. She and her husband have always made the family's Christmas presents and many of the things they wanted for their home. Sobel remembers fine old quilts used as tablecloths in her grandmother's house, but learning how to sew quilts herself was a process of self-education. Combining several old-fashioned patterns and motifs harmoniously in a single quilt is a challenge she enjoys.

It may take months for Sobel to assemble the right combination of fabrics and a year or more to create the quilt. Ideas are gathered and diagrammed on paper so that problems can be anticipated before the fabric is cut. A project begins slowly and thoughtfully, then gathers momentum, absorbing as much as 10 hours of

work each day while she scrambles to meet entry deadlines for the next exhibit. Hundreds of small shapes are joined together to make a double bed-sized quilt top which is then quilted to lining and basting with millions of stitches in a secondary design.

Small, even stitches are one indication

framed with a narrow set-in pleat of contrasting fabric which is not quilted down. Seamstresses and quilt enthusiasts will recognize this as a virtuoso touch.

In 1984 she began a cycle of quilts she calls "Starring the Seasons" based on star-and-crown patterns and applique flowers. Sobel's first quilt in this series, her

ship at the 1986 Schweinfurth show and was selected for inclusion in the American Quilter's Society juried show. This work will be shown to an Ithaca audience at the Ithaca Quilter's Guild Show at the Women's Community Building Oct. 16 and 17.

As the days grow shorter, Sobel's quilting days become longer and her fall quilt in traditional autumnal colors enters the home stretch, destined for its first exhibit at the upcoming 1987 Schweinfurth quilt show opening in Auburn on Nov. 7. The quilt is presently absorbing her every spare moment. Friends — and quilt curators — abbreviate their conversations with Sobel these days, laughingly admonishing her to "get back to her sewing."

Sobel admits she is always a little surprised and very pleased when her quilts win awards. The point of a show quilt, she explains, is to try something harder than you've tried before, to grow as a quilter, to share with other quilters, to give something back. The observant quilter may learn as much from seeing someone else's quilt on exhibit as they might from a lecture or class. The idea of encouraging others crops up often in discussion of her quilting because it is a value as closely held as fine workmanship. "I see myself primarily as an encourager," she says.

One especially pleasing result of her encouragement has been the development of her daughter, Tammy, into an award-winning quilter in her own right. Tammy Sobel's quilted work won an award at the New York State Fair and will also be shown at the Tompkins County Quilt Show in October.

Occasionally, prizes include cash awards which Sobel happily earmarks for fabric to be used in another quilt. Some of the money from the State Fair award will be used to fund a special award at the Schweinfurth show to encourage new quilters, "because all the encouragement others have given me has meant so much," she explains. Naturally, what is left over will be invested in her forthcoming winter quilt which she expects will complete the series by 1989. Still in the drawing and fabric-collecting stage, Nancy Ann Sobel looks forward to finishing the present quilt and beginning the next one. Her voice smiles as she admits, "I'm always looking forward to the next one!" □



"Broken Star Bouquet," Nancy Ann Sobel's summer quilt, won best of show honors at the 1987 New York State Fair. Inset: Nancy Ann Sobel. "I can't not quilt." PHOTOS BY JOAN GAGE

of fine workmanship. In some places the quilting lines follow the pieced pattern but in open areas new motifs arise from the quilting, as in Sobel's as-yet-untilled fall quilt, where a wreath of oak leaves and acorns fills the space within the central star. Lastly, a narrow binding (finished width is about 3/8 inch) holds the edges together with machine stitches and hand-sewn finishing.

Close examination of one of Nancy Sobel's quilts reveals an original and innovative bordering technique: Designs are

spring quilt, using hunter green, wine and eggplant colors is titled "Delectable Mountain Road" and won the Best of Show award in the 1985 Schweinfurth Quilt Show.

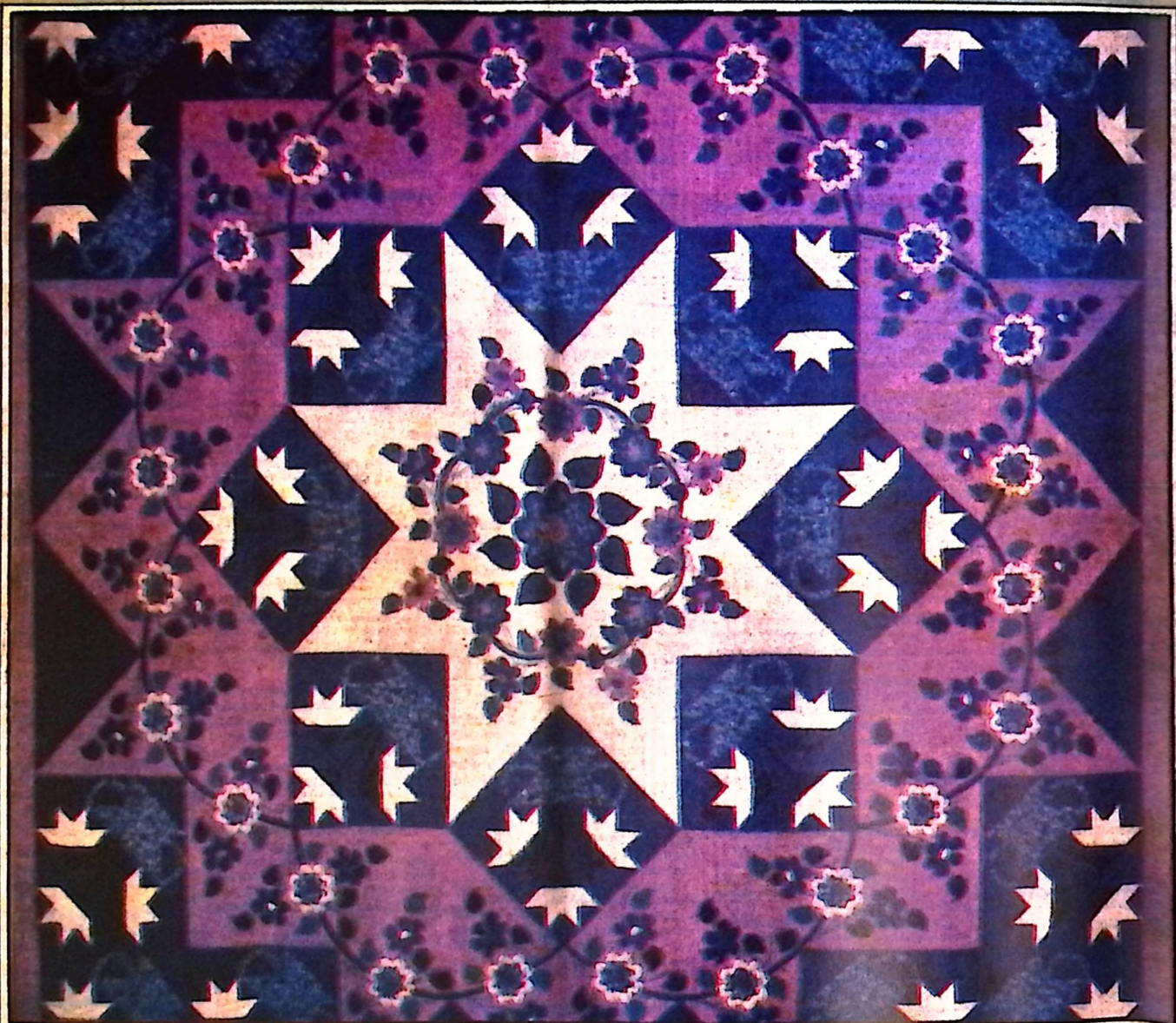
Sobel's summer quilt, "Broken Star Bouquet" has generated great excitement. It won Best of Show at the 1987 New York State Fair as well as First Place in the Quilt Division and the Lois Nightingale Memorial Award from the Auburn Quilter's Guild. Earlier, this quilt won the Judge's Choice Award for Best Workman-

The Grapevine
October 1987

Leisure

THE ITHACA JOURNAL FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1987

TV
Preview
pullout section



'BROKEN STAR BOUQUET': Nancy Sobel's 'summer quilt' is one of 124 quilts at the 1987 Quilt Show this weekend. See Best Bets page 3.

Guild Members in the News

Mary Lehmann
Alanna Fontanella



Mary Lehmann, featured artist of Trumansburg's Festival '87, at work creating one of her quilting masterpieces. Many pieces of Lehmann's collection will be on view in the Big Red Barn this weekend. For more on Festival '87, see pages 13 through 16.

photo by Skip Thorne

Mary Lehmann to be Featured Artist at T-burg Craft Fair

By SHIRLE WINDER

TRUMANSBURG—Mary Lehmann, a local quilter, will be the featured artist at the upcoming Trumansburg Craft Fair scheduled for December 5 and 6 in the Big Red Barn on Route 89. At the Fair, Mary will have pillows, wall hangings which will include a few Christmas designs in many different designs and shapes; plus, of course, her handmade quilts. Her items will be priced from \$5 to \$200, giving every browser a chance to purchase one of her creations.

Don't mistake Mary for Mary Lehman, the writer. This is a frequently occurring confusion.

Mary stated that her longtime dream of establishing a quilt workshop has finally become a reality.

This is Mary's first year to hold the workshops. A session can be only a few hours or many visits which may be needed to complete a project. She said an ideal class has about 6 people. A new expansion of her classroom is almost finished which will provide space for about 10 to a class. Mary's excited about the workshops. She stated that many of her students in-

Continued on page 4

Mary Lehmann

Continued from page 1

tend to make a project for someone else, but are so proud of the finished product they decide to keep it for themselves. She teaches quilting by hand and by machine. There are also many quick projects that can be made in a day.

She has held about 16 workshops since September. People have come from Ithaca, Trumansburg and I-Interlaken for her instruction. At one-day workshops, the students work straight through the day, leaving

with a finished or near-finished product. Eventually Mary plans setting quilting supplies in her soup at home, excluding fabric. All students go away from the classes with a sense of accomplishment. This is Mary's main concern.

Larry, Mary's husband, is actively supporting her teaching by building the addition on their lovely country home on Waterburg Road to accommodate her workshops. They have three children, daughters Londa and Karen and a son Gary. All three attended Trumansburg School. There are three grandchildren.

Mary's first book was published in August. There are two more in the making. The current book, intended for beginning quilters as well, is called "The Quick Instructions for Rail Fence Quilt or Wall Hanging."

Mary mentioned that the "rail fence" is a traditional pattern that's been around for years. It is often used in the sale of quilts at Things in Ithaca, but basically they're sold exclusively at Calico Shops where 100% CALICO FABRIC IS SOLD. Her new publication is sold at Rosanne's in Horseheads, The Strawberry Patch in Elmira and Mary's daughter Londa's store, Log Cabin Fabrics, in Ravena, NY near Albany. Mary has a motto to which it printed on the front cover: "Make it Today, Display it Tomorrow." This is what she offers in her quilting workshops.

Mary feels that she is providing a service to those taking her workshops, and that the sense of pride that fills her students, makes all her time and energy worthwhile.



Alanna Fontanella, director of this year's Tompkins County quilt show, sits amid her many creations.

—Photo by Skip Thorne

Odyssey Publications
10/87

Family Heritage, Art and Comfort; All in a Quilt

By MICHAEL A. SALERNO

TRUMANSBURG—They go by names like Irish Chain, Log Cabin, Courthouse steps, Churn-dash, Aunt Sukey's Choice and many, many more. They are warm, comfortable, colorful and memorable. They are quilts.

Few households in this country are without them. Passed down as heirlooms, locked away in trunks or tucked into cloth sacks and hidden in the attics, quilts are a truly American tradition.

In the early days when areas were still being settled, nothing was discarded. A homemaker would save every scrap of clothing or blankets as such materials were often hard to obtain. In their spare moments, pieces were patched and stitched together to make bedcovers. Thus the American quilt was born.

As times progressed and leisure hours grew from minutes saved through modern conveniences, quilting became more of a social pastime.

"That's how it started out," says Alanna Fontanella, resident of Trumansburg and avid quilter. "Women got together to socialize, but also used the time to make something functional."

And functional, they truly are. Few things can match the warmth, comfort, and yes security that comes from sleeping under a carefully preserved old quilt.

Well cared for a carefully maintained, quilts will last "forever, almost," says Fontanella. "You have to take care of them like any other fine antique, but if you're careful, they can last for generations."

"When I see people sitting on them, or letting their cat sleep on them, I shudder."

Fontanella is also a collector of quilts. Her interest began in the '70s when she was given a few pieces for a quilt which were begun by her grandmother. "My mother gave them to me and said 'you finish it.' But then my parents gave me my first quilt as a Christmas gift. I've been collecting slowly ever since."

Slowly is the word for quilts because like many of the finer things, quilts can not be rushed. Most quilts take months to finish, many take years.

Certain methods of quilting take longer than others but most quilts require large amounts of hand stitching which consumes time. Corners, for example, must all be joined by hand, and although some quilts may have as few as 12 pieces (48 corners) some quilts can have over 5000 pieces; that's as many as 20,000 hand stitched corners.

The volume of hours involved is one reason people who enjoy quilting often join a quilters guild. Guilds bring together people who enjoy the work and history of quilting and help continue some of the old quilting traditions.

"One of the purposes of joining a guild is to pass on the skill and the history," Fontanella says. "Holding on to the history of something makes it worth more whether it's an oil painting or a quilt."

Each quilt is its own piece of history, says Fontanella. The bits of material used in each quilt represent bits of people's lives and memories. In some cases, quilts are made just for the purpose of commemorating a certain moment in someone's life. For example, in the past, a popular tradition was for a woman to make a quilt for her wedding. The tradition of the "white wedding quilt" may be gone, but the quilts are not.

"I have my husband's maternal great-grandmother's white wedding quilt (the late Mrs. Carrie Hoffmire). They can keep the heritage of a family alive."

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild, of which Fontanella is a member, will be keeping the quilts alive in their 1987 Quilt Show entitled, *Quilts, Of Course*. Over 150 quilts and quilted items of various ages will be on display at the Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca Street, Ithaca. The show runs from 6-9 p.m. on Friday, October 16, and from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on the 17th and 18th.

This will be the best of all possible opportunities to see a marvelous collection of quilted items. There will also be a raffle for the chance of winning a fine handmade quilt. "There functional," says Fontanella, "but they're also works of art."

With the quilters guild and people like Alanna Fontanella working for it, it appears the art is in for a long, healthy life.

1987 Raffle Quilt



Winner -
Linda Van Nederyn



Eleanor Abbott's Medallion quilt
1987 Viewers' Choice Award
Contemporary Quilt



1987 Raffle Quilt Pin

TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING • 100 WEST SENECA STREET, ITHACA, NEW YORK 14850

Quilt Block Contest

The theme of the quilt block contest is trees and leaves.

Use any pattern or your original design to make a block $12\frac{1}{2}$ " x $12\frac{1}{2}$ " for a finished block of 12" x 12" square. Use preshrunk 100% cotton and unbleached, permanent press muslin in fall colors.

Your block may be pieced or appliqued, or a combination of both. Use embroidery only as an accent. No machine applique. Do not quilt your block; however, the design must be quiltable.

All blocks will be judged by a committee. Nine blocks will be chosen to be incorporated into a wall hanging assembled by members of the Guild. The assembled top and all other blocks will be displayed at our show, QUILTS, OF COURSE! to be held October 16-18, 1987.

A drawing will be held Saturday, Oct. 17, 1987 and the wall-hanging awarded to one of the nine block winners. It will be quilted following the show and sent to the winner by no later than Dec. 1, 1987. The other eight block winners will receive \$15 each and a color snapshot of the finished wallhanging.

All blocks not in the final selection become the property of TCQG and will be made into quilts which will be used for local charities. If you prefer that your block be returned to you, please send a 6" x 9" envelope with 39¢ postage.

You may submit as many blocks as you like but only one can be a winner.

Print with waterproof pen or type your name, address, phone number and block name on a 3" x 5" piece of muslin and baste to the back of your block.

Entries must be received by Saturday, August 8, 1987.
Send them to:

Ruth L. Him
1217 Dryden Rd.
Ithaca, NY 14850

Block Contest - Trees + Leaves - 1987



Winner of
 ← Wallhanging
 Karen L. Shipton
 Mifflinburg, PA

Non-Winners →



The enclosed photograph is the wallhanging
 which was made with the winning blocks in
 the recent quilt block contest held by the
 Tompkins County Quilters Guild, Ithaca, NY

October, 1987

Oak Leaves
 Donna A. Duncan
 322 S. Main St.
 Eminence, KY 40019

Autumn Leaves
 Mrs. Tami Shoji
 99 Harvey St.
 Chatham, Ontario
 Canada N7M1M4

Dalton Delight
 Ann M. Melia
 PO Box 2087
 Ocean Bluff, MA 02065

Dresden's Tree
 Nancy A. Myers
 2505 Wellington Rd.
 Lansing, MI 48910

Unnamed
 Karen L. Shipton
 85 Shipton St.
 Mifflinburg, PA 17844

Pieced Autumn Tree
 Mary Toda
 1036 Patricia Dr. #3
 Girard, OH 44420

Trees, fence, & rocks
 Sandra Jean Heid
 700 West Beech
 Cherokee, IA 51012

Three leaves
 Alice R. Wendleton
 R. 1
 Boonville, MO 65233

Autumn Leaves
 Laura Sahlberg
 834 Sherwood Ave.
 St. Paul, MN 55106

Beth Mulholland - Quick
Way
to
set
blocks
(1987
Show)

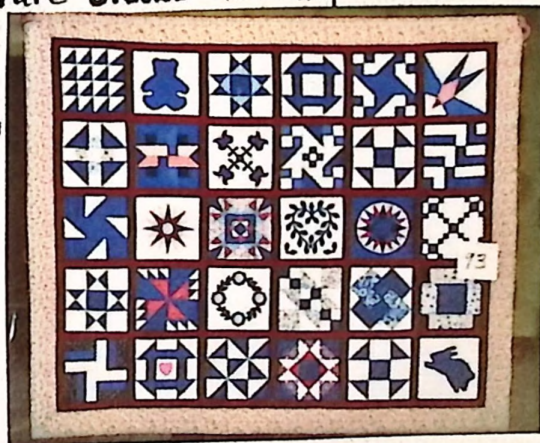


Viewers' Choice Awards



Miniature Blocks - Retiring President

For
Judi
Heath
1987



Viola W. Crispell
SLATERVILLE SPRINGS —
Viola W. Crispell, 77, of 118 Har-
ford Road, Slaterville Springs, a re-
tired teacher, died Sunday, Dec.
13, 1987, in Tompkins Community
Hospital.

1988

Ian Shane Montgomery 1988
(Cindy Linton)
(Born 6/22/88)



1988 4-H Winner
Christel Cuykendall
TCQG Award



Lecture - Gail van der Hoof
Open Meeting - 9/88

N
E
W

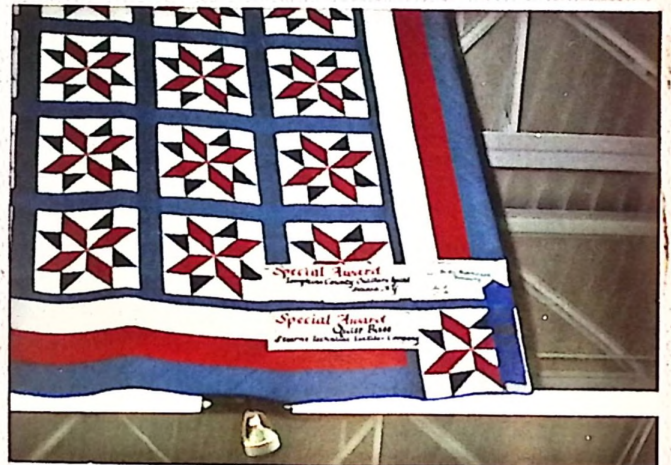
Y
O
R
K

S
T
A
T
E

F
A
I
R



1988 Winner - Betty Hutchinson
TCQG Award





Centennial Quilt Events

Do Better Scissors Make Better Quilts?

A comparative display of quilts and quilting paraphernalia from the 1810's, the 1860's, and the present.

September 13 — November 22
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays 1:00-4:30 p.m.
At the Hinckley Foundation Museum, 410 E. Seneca St.,
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

Quilts and Desserts

Bring a quilt, if you can, and join Tompkins County Quilters' Guild for a special "Show and Tell" of finished and in-progress quilts. Dessert following, free and open to the public.

Tuesday, September 27, 7:30 p.m.
At the Women's Community Building
100 W. Seneca St., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

Ithaca — Never — Anything Sweeter in This Land

from Homer

A work of art by Patty Elwin Davis.
now through December 31
At the Dewitt Historical Society of Tompkins
County Inc., The Clinton House, 120 N. Cayuga St.,
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

Crazy Quilts: Fabulous Fad of the Eighties

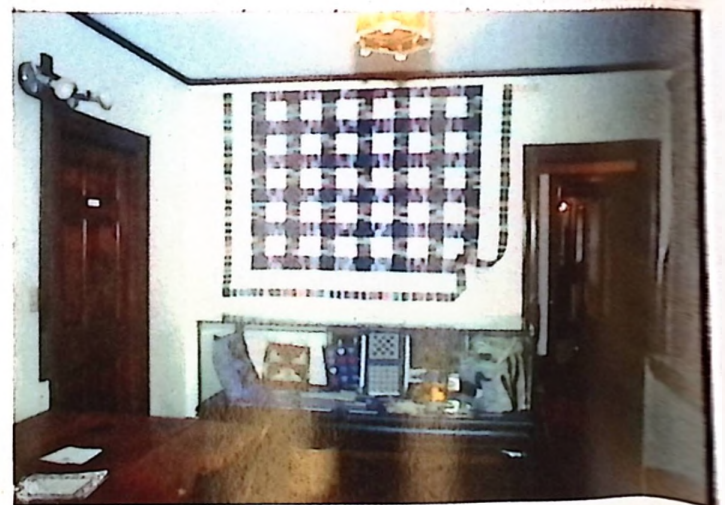
Decorative quilts from the Victorian Era.
Look for dates and location in the Ithaca Journal
or call (607) 273-4295

Actual date of exhibit was 1988 not 1987



HINCKLEY MUSEUM

Exhibit
1987



Hinckley
Museum
Exhibit →



Guild Members in the News

Alanna Fontanella
Mary Anne Treble

Our special person

Mary Anne Treble

is a talented fabric artist who uses her own batik fabrics to create beautiful jackets. These and her one-of-a-kind vests have been shown at Ithaca Textile Arts Guild's shows. She was an exhibitor in the recent "Crafts Invitational" at the Gallery at 15 Steps. Mary Anne also designed the Finger Lakes Bicentennial quilt for the 1976 show.

Mary Anne and husband, James, operate Americana Vineyards in Interlaken.

Our special person

Alanna Fontanella

was the face you saw in the store while we were in Nashville. We appreciated her offer to take care of our customers for us.

Alanna is a member of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and vice-president in charge of programs. She was co-chairman of the 1987 show, Quilts, Of Course!

Alanna and husband, David, live in Trumansburg. Look for her at area auctions... she collects old quilts and tops.

Quilts 'n Things 1988

C
H
R
I
S
T
M
A
S



D
I
N
N
E
R



1
9
8
8





Virginia Fenton

Christmas
Dinner 1988

Show and
Tell



Casey Carr



← Judi Heath displays
Winning block for
new logo design -
by Marie Doyle

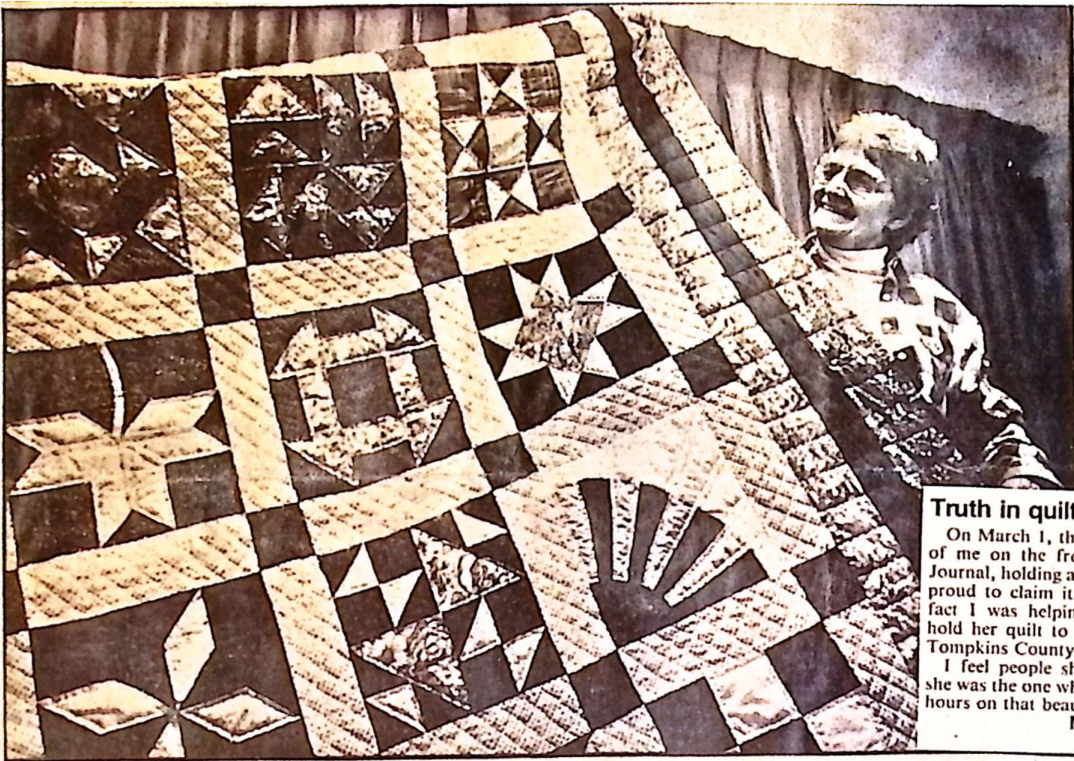
(Design has
been lost)

Premiere showing -
Completed center portion of
1989 Raffle Quilt.

Designed by Elsie Dentes



1989



Truth in quiltmaking

On March 1, there was a picture of me on the front page of The Journal, holding a quilt. I would be proud to claim it as mine, but in fact I was helping Arlene Fisher hold her quilt to display it to the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. I feel people should know that she was the one who spent so many hours on that beautiful quilt.

Mary Lehmann
Irumansburg

GAYLE SHOMER/Journal Staff

QUITE A QUILT: Mary Lehmann displays a quilt during 'Show and Tell' of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. Brigid Hubberman, Guild publicist, says quilting bonds women now and to the past with a tangible 'warmth'. The Guild belongs to a Consortium of 20 Central New York guilds and donates quilts to various community projects. The group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at the Women's Community Building in Ithaca.

Ithaca Journal 3/1/89

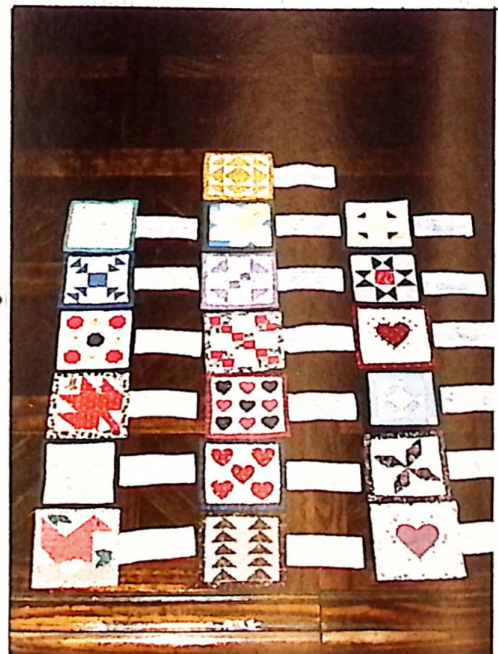
NY/PA Consortium Mini-Holiday-Fulton - April 1989



← TCQG Display
Raffle Quilt

Mary Lehmann
and
Polly Gutelius

~
Awards for →
Miniature Quilt
Show - made by
TCQG members





Bountiful Basket

Marking the top - Jan. 9, 1989

Beth Mulholland and
Judi Heath



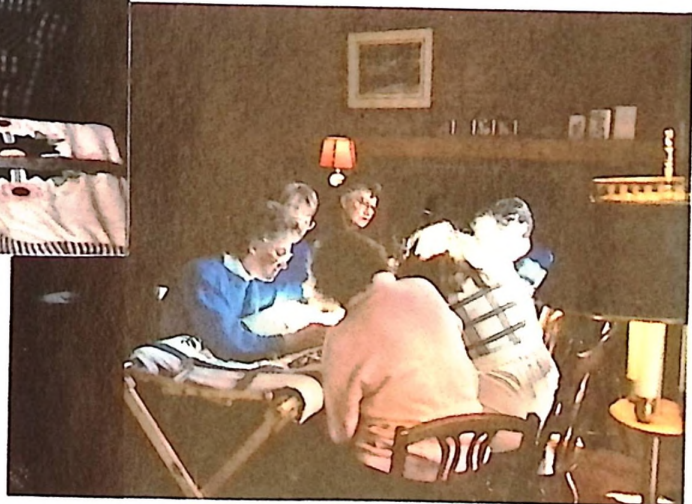
Basting the quilt
Jan. 10, 1989

Margie Bracewell (on the floor)
From left: Emily Hart
Betty Mackenzie
Cecile Griffen
Barbara Dimock
Cindy Linton



Virginia Fenton taking
the first quilting stitch
Jan. 13, 1989

Around the frame - from left:
Emily Hart
Margie Bracewell
Cecile Griffen
Betty Mackenzie
Nan Adams
Mary Anne Treble



Displaced Homemakers Honor Local Women

The Displaced Homemakers of Tompkins County is celebrating the tenth anniversary of the founding of the local chapter this year. On April 1st there will be a luncheon to honor women of Tompkins County who have made a significant contribution to their nominating group and the community. TCQG submitted the name of Betty MacKenzie, who will be attending the luncheon.

Betty is a retired 3rd and 4th grade teacher who has never given up teaching. She has taught Sunday School; rug making to Girl Scouts and 4H and at the local quilt store; quilting to Church women. She has assisted the Church in making 2 quilts a year which are sold at church sales. She has been President of the Womens Association at Church and the TCQG. Other interests are caning and rushing chairs, gardening, and giving time as Secretary of the Fire Department Auxilliary. She has managed to do these things while being wife to Donald, and mother to 6 children and grandmother to 15. (Incidentally, she is working on quilts for all of these grands but has several to go yet.) Congratulations to a deserving honoree!

Guild newsletter
Spring 1989



The lost Homeless Quilt
This quilt was started in the spring of
1989 and never finished.

Coming soon...

Have you seen "The Quilters" play? Wells College is presenting it March 30-April 1. By the time you read this we should have details. Phone or stop in.

Tuesday, April 4th Tompkins County Quilters Guild will sponsor Marston and Cunningham (Beaver Island, MI) in a lecture titled, "So Old, It's New" with tips on creating new quilts with ideas from the old. Gwen and Joe love to talk about and show quilts. The lecture is open to the public at the Women's Community Building at 7:30 pm. Cost is \$2.00 at the door.

Also on April 4 Marston & Cunningham will lead a workshop on drafting cables and fans at the Women's Community Building from 1-4 pm. There are a limited number of openings...cost is \$15. Flyers are available at the shop. Call Marian DeGloria at 277-6669 for reservations and supply list.

Saturday, May 6 is Selection Day for the October show "Quilts, Of Course!" sponsored by TCQG. If you have a quilt(s) you'd like the committee to consider for display bring it to the Women's Community Building between 10 am and 3 pm.

Quilts 'n Things Spring 1989 newsletter



TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD

PRESENTS:

GWEN MARSTON & JOE CUNNINGHAM

Renowned quilting teachers and authors
from Beaver Island, Michigan

TUESDAY
APRIL 4, 1989

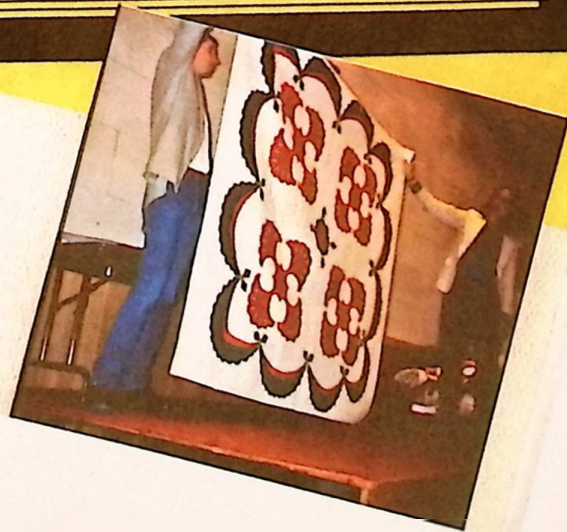


AFTERNOON WORKSHOP 1:00-4:00
CABLES + FANS - Participants will learn to draw their own cables + fans to fit any quilt. Tips on how to handle corners and mark on fabric. - \$15.00 - Pre-Registration necessary. Call Marian 607-277-6669 to register and get list of supplies you will need.

EVENING LECTURE 7:30pm
SO OLD IT'S NEW - Old quilts are full of little used ideas for today's quilters. During this lecture Gwen + Joe will show a sampling of quilts which demonstrate the use of old ideas to create new quilts. They will provide lots of tips on how to study old quilts for new ideas. No pre-registration. \$2.00 at the door.

Both events at:

's Building
Seneca &
reets
Y 14850



Raffle Quilt for -
Task Force For Battered Women

QUILT RAFFLE

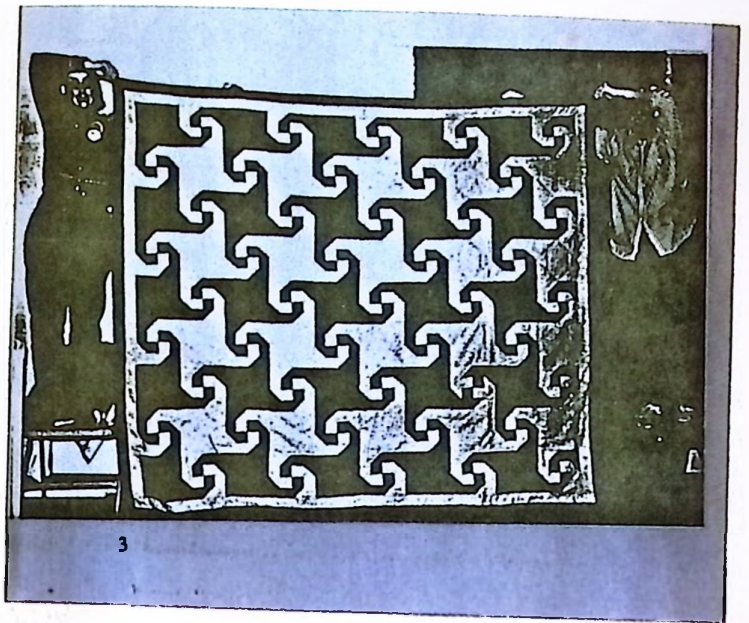
The Tompkins County Quilters Guild has donated a gorgeous hand-sewn quilt to be raffled as a benefit for the Task Force. The full size quilt is an Indiana Puzzle (or Snail Trail) pattern in green paisley and green calico.

The raffle will take place on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, 1989.

Raffle tickets will be on sale for \$1.00 each by the middle of February. They may be purchased by sending a check (to TCFBW) and stamped envelope to the Task Force office. Tickets will also be available at a number of businesses and offices in Ithaca and Trumansburg. Watch the newspapers for listings of sale and quilt display locations and the raffle location.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild is a non-profit educational organization whose purpose is to encourage interest in and teach the mechanics of quilt-making as an art form. Membership is open to everyone and visitors are welcome to attend meetings (Women's Community Building, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month).

Many thanks to the Quilters Guild for their support for the Task Force.



Three quilters to be honored

Three members of the Tompkins County 4-H Club will be given special recognition by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild for a quilt they made to be auctioned July 14 at the Youth Fair.

1989
Angie Burley, 11, and Katie Childers, 12, of the Lansing Fur 'N' Feathers 4-H Club and 12-year-old Thomas Trutt of the Enfield Unicorns 4-H Club will be honored at 7 p.m. June 27 in the Woman's Community Building.

For the past three months, the three have worked Saturdays with their instructor Barbie Caldwell-Rush to complete their quilt. Proceeds from its sale will benefit the 4-H in Tompkins County.



TCQG Award
NYS Fair 1987

Dear Sir or Madam,
I thank you for donating the \$20. gift certificate for the quilt exhibit. Your donation was the gift to me. Now I can go on quilting. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Katie Childers

Casey Carr
Baby quilt
for
Russell
1989



The Tompkins County Quilters Guild Show

By Barbara Phillips Long

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild, numbering approximately 50 members, sponsors a quilt show in Ithaca, New York, every two years. In an area where many people clearly remember the gala 1976 Bicentennial Quilt Show and Symposium, the show is well-received and has become a respected event on a community calendar that offers numerous other activities. The October 1987 show was the fourth in a series of more modest shows initiated by the guild. Mounting a quilt show every other year has worked out well. It provides members with enough time to complete new projects between shows and to create a striking raffle quilt, while also preventing the "burnout" often associated with annual quilt shows.

Public cooperation has been the key to the show's steady success. During May before each quilt show, the guild holds a Selection Day. The public is invited to bring in their quilts, and a panel of judges views each quilt, examines the workmanship and photographs the quilt. Using these photos, entry forms and their notes, the judges put together the show. Each show has featured more than 100 quilts and attendance has averaged 1,500. In 1987, every single quilt promised to the guild for the show was delivered — quite an achievement for the guild.

Many local quilt shows vary in quality from show to show, but the Ithaca show has been fortunate—consistently good and sometimes exceptional. There are enough quilts shown to please those whose main criterion is quantity, and always a few striking quilts to satisfy knowledgeable viewers. The '87 show was typical, with 137 quilts on display and 14 pieces of quilted or embellished clothing. Quilts from almost every category were represented, from antique to contemporary and machine-sewn.

As with many shows, this one did not

have a particular focus. However, there were a number of pictorial quilts which represented a variety of philosophies and approaches.

The view from the pasture down the road inspired Willow Soltow Crane's "South Hill, Ithaca" quilt, shown in color on page 3. The animals portrayed in the quilt include cows and geese, and the effect, while pictorial, is bucolic. Crane's particular strength is in portraying animals through applique. She makes wonderful cows. This particular quilt includes both appliqued animals and appliqued cut-outs of pictures of animals from decorator fabrics. (Quilters who are interested in Crane's work may want to take a look at her books *Making Animal Quilts*, published by Good Books, and *The Kids Very Own Quilt Book*, reviewed on page 49.)

Hand applique, particularly in combination with embroidery, can produce very lifelike images. Crane uses the techniques very effectively. In previous shows, viewers have also been able to see quilts by Eleanor Abbott, who produces strikingly successful pictures of birds as the centerpieces of small medallion quilts. A member of the guild, and a former president, she actively encouraged the guild to consider making applique quilts for the show raffle quilts, such as our appliqued basket of fruit set in a garden maze.

Many applique quilts require alternating blank blocks. Guild members wanted to avoid this because they wanted as many members as possible to make a block for the quilt and because the large spaces did not seem to complement the basket design. Using the garden maze to set the blocks provided a solution. It's an attractive setting that is not so dense and dark that it overwhelms the quilt blocks, and its openness permits extensive

quilting. (Editor's note: Refer to Issue No. 7 for basic instructions of this set.)

Not all the pictorial and representational quilts in the show were hand appliqued. "Rooftops", by Mary Milne, also shown on page 3, portrays the view from the maker's studio window in downtown Ithaca. In this quilt the hard edge that machine applique can produce was distinctly suited to the straight lines and angularity of the forms. Milne also made excellent fabric choices, and the colors and textures she chose effectively depicts the structures she sees.

Ithaca is fortunate to have many professional and amateur quilters. That many of them choose to work in the demanding discipline of representational applique is remarkable. It will be interesting to see if the next show, coming up in October, will include more works of this type, or if other visions or techniques attract attention.

A novel quilt incorporating knitted sashing was entered by Carol Sister of Ithaca. The blocks are simple squares of tartan plaids from shirts. Appliqued to the centers of the blocks and along the edges are medallions and lattices of various knitted stitches and cables. I have never thought of using hand-knitted materials in a quilt; I've always felt that regular battings would sift through the yarn and that the knitting would distort easily. The construction of this quilt appeared to prevent both of these problems.

Judi Heath's "Family Chains" uses a chain design to form a lattice around the embroidered names of members of her family. "Reunion Hands", by Betty Mackenzie, consists of embroidered blocks

showing the outlines of a hand of each of the members of the family that attended the 1986 Keeny family reunion. The quilt will be given away at the next reunion.

The variety of quilts that appear every two years at the Tompkins County Quilters Guild Show attest to the sustained interest in quilts in the Ithaca area. The Quilt Show both benefits from and feeds that interest. The guild's ability to consistently mount shows that include work of interest to the serious quilter and the general public endorses the importance of regional quilt shows. The next show is scheduled this October 13 through 15 at the Women's Community Building, 100 Seneca Street, Ithaca, New York 14850.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild belongs to a local Women's Federation of civic groups, which is responsible for the upkeep of the building. Meetings are held there on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings of each month; membership is open and visitors are always welcome.

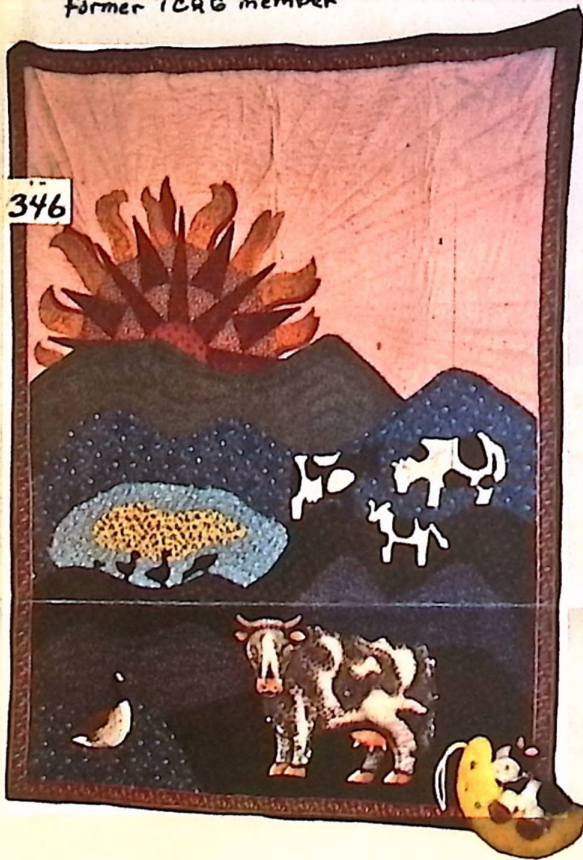
NOTE OF INTEREST: Guild president Alanna Fontanella and fellow member Judi Heath have opened a shop in the area. Featuring fabrics, classes and finished quilts to order. "Quilts 'N Things" is located at 980 Dryden Road in Ithaca.



373
Rooftops, by Mary Milne, portrays the view from the maker's downtown studio window.

Two Views of Ithaca, New York.

South Hill, Ithaca, by Willow Soltow Crane, inspired by the view down the road. See related story on page 47. (Photo's Judi Heath)
Former TCRG member



NEW YORK QUILT



PROJECT

New York Quilt Project

As one of the country's first colonies to be settled, New York has a long and distinguished cultural history. Among the many well-known artistic contributions from the State, the American public has come to appreciate the work of the limners who painted the patron families of the Hudson Valley, the naturalists who found inspiration in the State's physical splendor, and contemporary artists who today give Manhattan much of its vitality.

Less well-recognized, however, is a remarkable group of artists—mostly women—who created an equally significant body of work. These artists are the quilters of New York State. Through tireless handiwork and creative energy, they have warmed generations of beds and hearts, and in the process, have left a magnificent legacy. Only recently appreciated as an art form, quilts are now becoming subjects of scholarship, as well; they are recognized for what they tell us about family life, social history, local lore and customs, and even politics, religion and economics.

*Bride's Quilt Top—
"Bird of Paradise."
Artist unidentified;
Albany area, New
York State; 1858-63;
Appliqued cotton,
wool, silk and velvet
on muslin, right:
84½ x 69¾"; Gift of
the Trustees of the
Museum of American
Folk Art (1979.7.1).*

The Museum of American Folk Art for years has played a leading role in bringing American quilts to a broad public audience. The Museum's outstanding collection has been exhibited throughout the country and overseas. Through its well-known quarterly publication, *The Clarion*, its books and educational programming, the Museum has fostered widespread appreciation of the quilting tradition. Now, as a New York City-based institution, the Museum has initiated The New York Quilt Project to locate, document, and preserve the quilts of its home state. Through a process of active fieldwork and art-historical research, The New York Quilt Project will identify quilts created in New York State from the eighteenth century through 1940;

record the oral histories of makers, their families, and others associated with quilting; and explore written materials—letters, books, period publications—that will help us to understand the significance of quilts and quilting in New York State.

Project Team

A distinguished panel of scholars from a variety of disciplines has accepted the Museum's invitation to participate in the development of The New York Quilt Project and the realization of its goals. Working with members of the Museum's staff and volunteers these experts will offer training especially designed to enable interested individuals to assist in the Project.

Quilt Days

In order to encourage the active participation of as many New Yorkers—and others—as possible in these efforts, The New York Quilt Project will organize "Quilt Days" throughout the State. At these events, quilters and quilt-owners will have an opportunity to receive valuable information about quilt conservation and preservation, and to become participants in the project by having their quilts registered and photographed.

Exhibition and Archive

The New York Quilt Project will culminate in an exhibition that will tour New York State, an accompanying illustrated book, a videotape, and a complete archive at the Museum of American Folk Art designed to encourage continuing scholarly research in this important field.

Portraits of the unknown needle-women believed to have stitched the "Bird of Paradise" bride's quilt top; Photographer unknown; New York State; 1858-63; Photograph in case, right: 13½ x 11¾"; Gift of the Trustees of the Museum of American Folk Art (1979.7.3).



I would like to help The New York Quilt Project by:

- Completing a questionnaire to contribute data to The New York Quilt Project.
- Working through my local quilt guild as a liaison prior to a local Quilt Day.
- Attending a training workshop for Quilt Day volunteers.
- Attending a Quilt Day to have my quilts registered and photographed. (number of quilts _____). I prefer _____AM _____PM.
- Volunteering to register quilts and quilt owners at my local Quilt Day.

I would like to support The New York Quilt Project by making a donation.

Enclosed is a check payable to
The New York Quilt Project for \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

For more information please contact:

THE NEW YORK QUILT PROJECT
Museum of American Folk Art
Administrative Offices
61 West 62nd Street
New York, NY 10023



Patterns for
"Bird of Paradise"
Bride's Quilt Top;
Artist unknown; New
York State: 1858-63;
Cut and pinned news-
paper and paper,
Bride: $10\frac{1}{4} \times 7'$
Bridegroom: $10\frac{3}{4} \times 8'$;
Elephant: $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{2}'$;
Gift of the Trustees
of the Museum of
American Folk Art
(1979.7.2a-k).



The New York Quilt Project Goals:

- To locate and identify New York State quilts—frequently fragile in nature—before they suffer further from the ravages of time or neglect, and to encourage their preservation.
- To undertake research on quilts created in New York State, and identify patterns, techniques and design sources associated with them.
- To record histories, both oral and written, documenting quilts; their makers and the tools used; and the function of quilt-making in community life.
- To identify the New York State women who contributed to the distinctively American tradition of block-quilting.
- To search for common threads that may unite New York State quiltmakers from diverse social, economic and ethnic backgrounds, and to identify the differing traditions associated with each.
- To foster recognition of quilts made by the women of New York State both as a responsibility of domestic life and an expression of personal artistic creativity.
- To enrich the public knowledge of the history of New York State through a detailed study of quilts.
- To stimulate genealogical and local historical research.



MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN
FOLK ART



Diane Sutherland + Alanna Fontanella
Co-ordinators



The Museum of American Folk Art
and

The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild

present

QUILT DAY

Your opportunity to participate in



The New York Quilt Project

Bring your quilts made in New York prior to 1940
for registration and documentation.

Date: Saturday, September 16, 1989

Location: Ithaca High School
10am to 4pm

For more information please phone (607)387-0050
277-0031

← Photography →



Ruth Him + Mary DeLong



Donna Hall



Rudy Sutherland

Piecing together a legacy

Quilting has a rich history Upstate

QUILT is a noun denoting a bed covering of three layers — a filling of wool, cotton, or down (and now polyester) sandwiched between an ornate, patterned top and a plain fabric backing.

"To quilt" is a verb that describes the action of stitching or sewing in layers or in lines or patterns. Quilting is the process of fastening pieces of material together to form a warm or decorative "cloth sandwich."



CAROL KAMMEN

Both the noun and the verb — and their physical counterparts — have had frequent use in this part of the country through the years.

Quilts were made because they were needed as blankets for cold nights — of which there are many here. They were often the top most coverlet on a bed. But beds weren't the only places for quilts — sometimes they were used in place of doors and broken windows, or on other occasions were coverings were necessary.

Quilts were made at home and they were made in a variety of patterns and styles. Designs have changed over time, but the basic elements have remained the same, even as fabrics, colors, technology and styles have changed.

Beth Mulholland, an Ithaca quilt collector, is a font of knowledge on traditional styles of quilts.

Some quilts were made of whole cloth, she says. These could be worked with any number of spools of thread to create delicate patterns in the cloth. Most often, they were white on white and were decorated with swirls, leaves, running tracks, curls, or sometimes simple lines that formed large or small squares. These quilts were sometimes embroidered and they often featured a central motif around which smaller patterns rotated.

Quilts could be made of pieces of cloth, too, as in quilts called "strippie," where panels of material were sewn together until they matched the size of the bed. In these quilts, the strips form the face of the quilt. This was a useful way to use up pieces of extra cloth left over from some dressmaking project. They could be quilted along the edges of the strips or they could be lavishly decorated with designs that crossed the fabric borders.

Pieced quilts could also be made of blocks, sometimes of one piece of cloth, usually of material of various colors and designs. Pieced quilts made of blocks often featured geometric designs repeated all over the face of the quilt. These three are the original quilt types — and, with variations, they are that same as those to be found today.

Over time, of course, quilts changed. From simple pattern types, often of English origin, quilts became in mid-19th Century, more colorful and even busier in design. Victorian crazy quilts — made

Quilt Day

On Saturday, Sept. 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild will present a Quilt Day at Ithaca High School. The guild invites anyone in Tompkins County who owns a quilt made before 1940 to bring it to the high school and have it photographed and registered. If the quilter is known, information about that person also will be gathered.

Quilt Day in Tompkins County is also sponsored by The Museum of American Folk Art in New York City, which has promoted The New York Quilt Project. This is an attempt to document the quilts of New York made prior to 1940. There have been 15 Quilt Days held in various locations around the state, and at each at least 120 (and sometimes many more) quilts have been catalogued.

The goal of The New York Quilt Project is to archive information about quilts and quilters in order to classify New York quilts, establish regional differences, and observe common features. There will be a quilt exhibit and a book about New York quilts and quilters.

If you have a quilt in the attic or on the best bed, do bring it to Quilt Day and have your heirloom documented. In this way we are able to celebrate the lives and the work of those women who have been here before.

For more information, call Alana Fontanella at 387-9059.

with random-sized shapes — became popular.

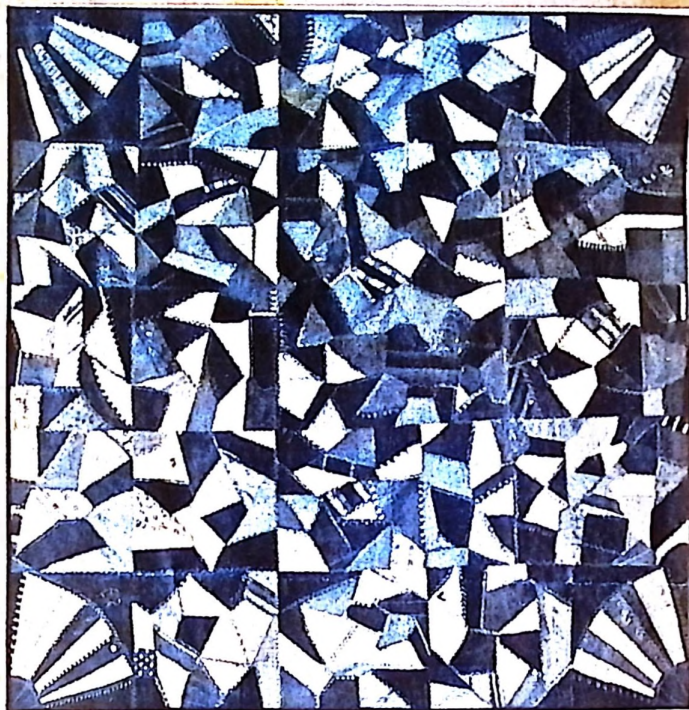
In fact, every quilt pattern has a name: some were named for flowers and foods (Primrose Path and Melon Patch), and others for birds and insects (Wild Goose and Honey Bee).

Some quilts sported eagles or stars — favorite American design elements; others copied woven coverlets, or were botanicals — an adaptation of French "mille fleurs" tapestry.

The development of the sewing machine in the 1850s meant that basic quilting designs could be achieved mechanically. But women continued to quilt by hand. And it was the handwork in quilts that was most admired.

Mulholland credits the influence of Japanese design near the end of the 19th Century with a freeing of quilt patterns from the symmetry of the earlier periods. In addition, story quilts of individual design emerged sometimes showing landmarks in an individual's life. And there were autograph and album quilts, often created by a club, or by neighbors when someone moved away.

In the 20th Century colors changed as new technology produced cloth in muted and more varied tones. Patterns for quilts



Courtesy of the Dewitt Historical Society

PIECES OF HISTORY: This silk and velvet crazy quilt was made by Emily Landon Covert sometime in the 1890s. Covert was the sister-in-law of Ellen Covert Cornell, wife of one-time New York Governor Alonzo B. Cornell (Ezra Cornell's son). The quilt was made from pieces of gowns and other wearing apparel of Ellen Cornell's, many worn while she was First Lady of the state between 1880 and 1882. Emily Covert died in 1936 at the age of 101.

often appeared in newspapers and in women's magazines, and they were traded too. Peddlers distributed quilt patterns, and some were devised by folding paper until usable and pleasing designs emerged.

There are quilts. And there are quilters. That quilts were useful explains why they were needed and made. But what explains the care and the time that went into creating and decorating such intricate designs — especially when the finished quilt was usually put immediately to use and regarded only as a household object?

Why quilt? Why take the time to cut all those little pieces of cloth, to stitch them together. It would be much simpler to use a plain piece of material as the coverlet top and it would be just as warm.

There are any number of reasons why people have quilted. Mulholland suggests that quilting was one way for women to create something of beauty for their homes, many of which were poor and drab. Quilting was one job they willingly undertook, for many women's lives were filled with numerous repetitious tasks, such as making meals and ironing.

Quilting gave women the opportunity to create something of beauty that could be worked on in spare moments, each stitch adding to the completed project. Quilt pieces could be taken up and put down as time allowed, and small sections of a quilt

top could be stuffed into a pocket when some other thing demanded a woman's attention.

A quilt cost relatively little to make as it could be compiled from scraps of cloth already in the family scrap basket. Some quilts, of course, were of the costliest materials such as silk and damask.

Quilting also was a communal activity. Quilting bees were big social events for 19th Century families. Once the top was pieced, neighboring women would gather around the quilting frame to quilt the top, middle and bottom together. They created with their needles endless swirls and twists that made of three distinct parts a finished whole.

Those quilting sessions were important gatherings for women who had little opportunity to leave their own homes and visit with others. At quilting bees, many things were discussed, problems aired, and opinions sought. Writing about the young Willa Cather and the sources of her stories, Sharon O'Brien noted that, "listening to women's talk as she crouches under the quilting frames, the young girl heard the unwritten history of the community that never entered written records or public history."

Carol Kammen is an historian and the author of several books on local history.



Marian DeGloria and Ruth Story examine quilt

Standing: Denise Lentini and Betty MacKenzie

The New York



Marian DeGloria measuring



Molly Adams (left) Barbara Dimock (center)



Quilt Project - 1989



Lillian Love (right)

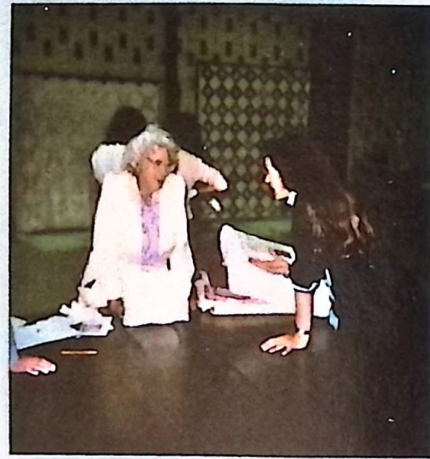
Lisa Turner

The
New York
Quilt
Project

1989



Lorraine Sack (left) Peggy Dunlop (right)



Alanna Fontanella (right)



Ruth Him (left)



Gale Austen (left) Polly Gutelius (right)

Stitches of history

Brooktondale's Carl English uncovered a quilt that's booked as one of New York's finest

By KAREY SOLOMON
Journal Staff

BROOKTONDALE — Broken dishes seldom look this good — especially after 150 years.

Even rarer is the quality of the local quilt that bears this "Broken dishes" name, an heirloom owned by Carl English of Besemer Road, Brooktondale.

But English isn't keeping this heirloom all to himself. Instead, he'll share it with quilt enthusiasts all over the world when it's featured in an upcoming book about the beautiful old quilts of New York state.

Made by English's great aunt, Nancy Osborn, with the help of either her mother or stepmother — family history leaves this stone unturned — the quilt contains 21,559 pieces. When Osborn died in 1909 at the age of 92, she was described in her obituary as a "quiet homebody beloved and respected by everyone."

The quilt, however, was constructed on long barge trips along the Erie Canal that she and her husband, Chauncy, made, bringing produce from the Besemer-Caroline-Brooktondale area to New York City.

Most of the pieces are tiny triangles sewn into 1-inch squares. Half are white muslin, while most of the others are calico prints, which provide the "broken dish" effect. Red triangles are used with white ones to create a triple-sawtooth border and a narrow binding of ¼-inch thick alternating red and white strips finishes the edges.

Quilt documenters who examined the quilt say it was pieced by machine, lined with a thin batting and quilted by hand. No one has hazarded a guess as to its age, although English believes it could be between 100 and 150 years old. Osborn's stepmother died in 1877, so it's likely that the quilt was pieced some years earlier.

Although some of the colors have faded, many remain remarkably bright: Sunny yellows and golds and electric pinks and

reds look as new as contemporary fabrics. However, some of what must have been originally green and blue has faded. Despite this, the general visual effect of the quilt is dazzling.

Carl English, a retired Cornell University plant breeder, inherited the quilt from his mother, with instructions to pass it down to his oldest son. For perhaps a quarter of a century, the quilt lay folded in a chest.

In 1988, when the New York Quilt Documentation Project began under the aegis of the Museum of American Folk Art, people who owned old quilts were invited to open their linen closets and share the historic contents with experts who examined, photographed and recorded the history of the quilts.

Brooktondale quilter Molly Adams knew of this special quilt and encouraged the English family to take it out for a closer look. Adams also helped with the documentation of area quilts.

The goal was to gather as much information as possible about these old and beautiful textiles before many of them are lost to time. This archival data should be useful to future needlework historians.

"New York Beauties," which will be published in June 1992 by Penguin-Dutton, will create an accessible visual record of the most noteworthy of the quilts, including English's.

"It's an absolutely beautiful quilt," says Phyllis Tepper, coordinator of the project and co-author of "New York Beauties." "It's typical of the scrap quilts of its time."

But to Carl and Elsie English, this quilt also says something about the history of this part of the world. Carl, now 81, was born in Besemer when this small hamlet, now noted only as a sign on Route 79, had its own stores, post office, railway station and water tower, which was built so the railroad would stop there.

Much of the land was originally purchased by Nancy Osborn's father, Jacob Snyder, who selected 600 acres — almost a square mile — for \$450. Snyder



TERESA HERNANDEZ/Journal Staff

ANTIQUE QUILT: Carl and Elsie English display the antique quilt that has been in their family for several generations. The quilt is made of thousands of pieces each hand-stitched together.

resold the land to his future neighbors and became quite a wealthy man. Nancy's brother, Theodore, was Carl English's grandfather.

In the middle to late 19th century, both the canal barges and

trains were active moving salt, farm and consumer goods between rural and metropolitan areas.

"I don't know where they got the produce to take down, whether they grew it or their

neighbors did," English says. "We do know that the trip by barge took three to four days each way. And that the quilt took much longer.

"They didn't do it in one trip," English adds dryly.



TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD, Inc.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING • 100 WEST SENECA STREET, ITHACA, NEW YORK 14850

September 30, 1989

Dear [redacted]

I knew our community was supportive of volunteer projects, but I was very pleasantly surprised by the number of people who actually volunteered their time to register quilts for the New York Quilt Project's quilt day. We had over 60 people volunteer from 1 to 12 hours of their time to help preserve a portion of women's history and art. Many large metropolitan areas could not find that kind of support for their quilt day.

I want to thank you for your energy, enthusiasm, patience and endurance that helped register, photograph, inspect, interview, document, label and check out 217 quilts! In other areas, the average number of quilts had been between 105 and 150. With our contribution, the total number of quilts registered with the Museum of American Folk Art is just over 4500, with thirteen quilt days to go!

I know there are more quilts out there. If you have a friend or relative that would like to participate in the project, please give them my name, address and telephone number. I would be happy to send them a copy of the official form and arrange for an inspection.

Local businesses were also very supportive of the project. Wegman's, Tops, P&C, Mister Donut, Indian Creek, Ludgates and MacDonald's all provided either money, food or paper goods to help sustain our energy throughout the day. I'm sorry I could not thank each of you individually on September 16th. The day was hectic. But I hope it was educational and rewarding for you. Again, thank you for making our quilt day a huge success

Sincerely,

Alanna Fontanella
Alanna Fontanella



Quilts, of Course

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild's 1989 Show

*Featuring over 100 antique and contemporary quilts and quilted items,
ongoing demonstrations, vendors of quilting books, fabrics, and supplies,
and a drawing for "A Bountiful Basket" — a stunning
Baltimore album-style bedroom quilt.*

Friday, October 13 6-9 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, October 14 and 15 10-5 p.m.

at the Women's Community Building

100 West Seneca Street, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

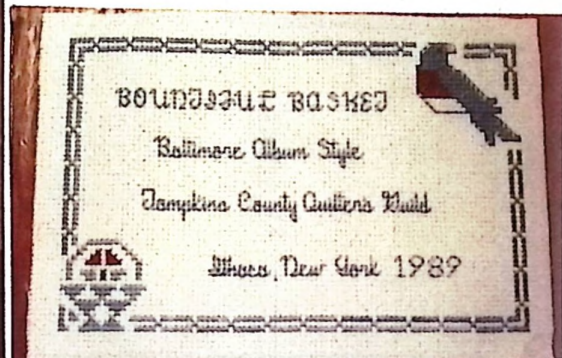
Admission \$2.00, Students and Seniors \$1.00

For information, call Marian DeGloria (607) 277-6669.



*Bountiful Basket
1989 Show
Raffle Quilt*

Quilt Label:



Winners:

CHRISTINA FRIAR, M.D.
STUART ACKERMAN, M.D.
4724 YARMOUTH AVENUE
ENCINO, CALIFORNIA 91316

Virginia Fenton, Chairperson
of the 1989 raffle quilt



BLOCK IDENTIFICATION

<p>Adapted from Tree of Paradise Quilt from Museum of Am. Folk Art. Barbara Dimock</p>	<p>Heart with leaves Shirley Jans. original design inspired by old Baltimore Album Quilts</p>	<p>Lyre and Laurel Wreath Jally Kern adapted from picture of an Album quilt</p>	<p>Bless birds of Happiness Virginia Fenton - elements taken from a larger block in Baltimore Album</p>
<p>Variation of 4th Row (by Pat Cox) Georgette Sinkler</p>	<p>Flowers, - } Fenton, Virginia Leaves, } Granholm, Betty Stems } Him, Ruth Buds } Heath, Judi</p> <p>Basket - Heath</p> <p>Peacock + bee - Him</p>	<p>Marian De Gloria Variation from Baltimore Album design - simplified</p>	
<p>Cherries Polly Gutelius adapted from picture of an album quilt</p>	<p>Chipmunk - <u>Beth Melholland</u></p> <p>Rabbit - <u>Jally Kern</u></p> <p>Butterflies - <u>Beth Melholland</u></p>	<p>Mary Lehman</p>	
<p>Grapes + leaves Betty MacKenzie adapted from picture in a quilt magazine</p>	<p>Label - Gutelius, Polly</p>	<p>Cornucopia Eleanor Abbott of South Carolina - former member of TCG.</p>	
<p>Beth Melholland</p>	<p>Betty Granholm</p>	<p>Elise Denton designed it & Lori Coon executed it</p>	<p>Black birds - Alanna Fontanella</p>

CHRISTINA FRIAR, M.D.
STUART ACKERMAN, M.D.

4724 YARMOUTH AVENUE
ENCINO, CALIFORNIA 91316

October 25, 1989

President
Tompkins County Quilters Guild
Women's Community Building
100 West Seneca Street
Ithaca, New York 14850

Dear Friends,

The quilt "A Bountiful Basket" has arrived safe and sound and we are all absolutely thrilled and delighted to have won it. It will, I assure you occupy a very special place in our home.

We are going to contact local quilting guilds and associations if we can and will proudly show the quilt, if possible. We will be sure to send along any photos or programs if we are able to do so.

Enclosed please find our check for \$120. Twenty is payment for four of the closionne pins in the "Bountiful Basket" design. The remainder is our way of returning some of our good fortune to the guild so that you may start on another beautiful project, or donate it to the Women's Center for other good work.

I appreciate your sending the quilt along so promptly. Please send the pins also to the above address. We would also appreciate any other programs, clippings, or information about the quilt, the show, and its creators in the guild.

Thank you again,

Sincerely,


Stuart Ackerman, M.D.

SEA:ec

sent letter 11/20/89

Thanks & biographies to be sent

The Ithaca Times
Oct. 12-13, 1987

Stitches in Time



They were engaged just before he left to join the Union army. She spent the next several years worrying about him, wondering if she would ever become a bride. There was only one way to pass the quiet evenings and keep her mind from thinking of him out there — cold, hungry and alone. She gathered pieces of silk and satin and patched together a quilt. Each square, each stitch, reinforced her love for him. She embroidered a cannon on one square and made a tiny replica of the medal he'd just won on another. When he came home they married and eventually had one child. Eliza Bishop Day folded up the quilt and placed it in the attic. There was no time to work on it. She had to concentrate on the family. The quilt lay in the attic for 100 years before it was rediscovered by her grandson, Edgar Whiting. Today it hangs in a place of honor in his Ithaca home and is considered a piece of art and a bit of family history.

On September 16, last month, Eliza Bishop Day's quilt gained a new status. It's now part of the collective heritage of New York state. All day Saturday, quilt owners and quilters gathered to examine, photograph and record quilts made in New York before 1910. Under the auspices of the Museum of American Folk-Art, the New York Historical Society's Quilt Documentation Project is moving from town to town gathering data on the quilted legacy of our state. Over 200 quilts passed through the hands of volunteers, some from the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, some from RSVP (Retired Seniors Volunteer Program) and other community organizations. Each owner was queried about the quilt (Is there any material left from this quilt?), the quilter (Did she make any other quilts?) and the circumstances by which the person owned it (Where was it stored? Is it a family heirloom?). Owners received an expert examination of the quilt and a detailed analysis of the fabric, the inner batting and the stitching. The pattern or manner of construction was also identified. For some owners this was a revelation. They had no idea that eleven stitches to the inch is next to impossible or that the batting in their quilt contained cotton seeds because it was made before the invention of the cotton gin. New-found respect was expressed for these long dead women who left such a precious heritage.

But this was not just a data gathering session for historians. It was also a celebration of women's art and women's emotions. Quilts, more than any other art form, evoke femininity. As each quilt was unfolded that Saturday, and as the patterns and colors jumped to life, the heart of its maker was also released. We were privy to the very personal stories of these women told through their handwork. Hold the quilt, look at its stitches, appreciate its colors. This is a personal souvenir that tells a tale of creativity, personality and emotion.

The history of quilting in America is a female history. Unlike today, every woman was expected to spend a certain number of hours a week on needlework. It was a necessary skill for family life. In colonial times, women of all social classes and ethnic backgrounds made quilts that reflected their resources. Farm women grew or



Photo/Doug Hicks

ONE STITCH AT A TIME: Graphic artist Elsie Little Denton and daughter Tessia work on a Bountiful Basket quilt. The center was designed by Denton.

raised their own sheep to spin, weave and dye cloth for clothing and quilts. More well-to-do ladies, or those with connections in the old world, bought imported cloth. These quilts were so valued, both as decoration and as necessary coverlets for the North American winters, that women patched up old quilts rather than make new ones. Thus the birth of the crazy quilt, a busy amalgam of silk, wool and satin that follows no pattern. These scrap crazy quilts evolved into works of art during the Victorian period. Quilters not only used fine fabric like velvet and silk, but embellished the quilt with embroidery, ribbon and lace.

After the American Revolution, the art of patchwork flourished. Geometrical patterns in bright colors could be found on the plains of Kansas or the hills of California. The use of applique also entered the quilter's repertoire. Women enclosed patterns in letters to each other and read magazines that published designs. During pioneer days, the quilting bee, an American invention, was in its heyday. Neighbors would work on a freedom quilt for someone's son who had just reached 21. Or perhaps a friendship quilt would be assembled with individually signed blocks. They'd gather from miles around to stitch quilts and talk with each other. These were surely the first women's support groups.

Because they track family history, quilts can be used as windows to the past, photo albums in cloth. This is not the dramatic past of wars and revolutions, but the history of the American family and the day-to-day story of women's lives. Quilts

were given and received as life-stage markers, rites of passage, to commemorate births, marriages, moving away, friendship and even death.

Quilting is primarily women's work and for that reason the craft has sat on the back-burner of appreciation until the last ten years. As one volunteer commented, "When men painted designs like this in the 1960s they were considered geniuses, but women have been doing this for hundreds of years!" It's no coincidence that along with the feminist movement in the 1970s, quilting and the history of quilt work found a new renaissance. Now there are hundreds of guilds all over the country and there is a new regard for the quilters past and present as artists and craftspeople.

Today's quilters are an eclectic bunch. Members of the Tompkins County Guild include professors, farmers, nurses, business executives and mothers. These women range in age from 20 to 60 and come from every socioeconomic class. They meet every other week at the Women's Community Building to talk about quilting and show each other their projects. They also do community service. Last spring they donated a quilt to the battered Women's shelter for a raffle. They are now piecing quilts for the homeless. Just like any support group, they give each other encouragement for a work in progress and praise for a finished project. They also share ideas and give advice.

One of the unique features of quilting is that it is a social art. It's hard to imagine

continued on page 22

BY MAXINE WILKIE

The Ithaca Times

a bunch of oil painters meeting each month to share their work! Just like the prairie days, quilts connect women through their creativity. They seem to share a special understanding — no one appreciates the beauty of a quilt as much as a quilter.

So why does one begin this task? Anyone can see that making a bed quilt or even a wall hanging is an endless project. "All those tiny stitches, it must drive you crazy!" cry the uninitiated. Quilters agree, however, that there is a certain zen to weaving a running stitch through cloth and a real sense of accomplishment when the work is finished. Some begin because they feel compelled to create. These women usually find their way to quilting through other needle arts such as needlepoint, knitting or cross-stitch. Others are motivated by the infinite patterns and colors. They can hardly wait to get their hand on that fabric and cut it to pieces. And some are more practical — they need a gift for a special occasion like a wedding or baby shower.

The first step is picking out a pattern. Ohio star, tree of life, bear paw, lone star, log cabin. You can choose a traditional pattern with a history and a name or invent one. The fabric is usually cotton and most often calico. In the old days a woman would rip up old clothes for fabric or piece together scraps left over from making the family wardrobe, but today it costs about \$150 in materials bought at the local quilt shop. A double wedding ring requires nine different coordinated colors, a flying goose quilt has 36. Most baffling of all is the ability of a quilter to choose these fabrics and somehow picture the design based on bolts and bolts of raw material. Much like Scarlett O'Hara standing before those green velvet curtains at Tara and seeing a fancy dress, quilters stack fabric to the ceiling and envision the finished product. The fabric must be washed and ironed and then laid out for marking. Pattern templates are outlined in pen and then cut. The sheer numbers often overwhelm the beginner — 252 small triangles in each of the four colors? Are they kidding? The pieces are sewn together, usually by a system that makes for efficient piecing (sew together all A's to all B's, then sew together all C's to all D's, then join the A/B and C/D strips).

Once the top is pieced together, the quilting lines are marked with pencil.

Although the fabric and design of the

patchwork produce its movement, hand quilting is its soul. Without the tiny stitches in radiating lines or circles, the pieced quilt is flat and uninteresting. From far away, the quilting creates textures, a 3-D image, and a character that either enhances the patchwork or has a life of its own. Close up, the stitchery boggles the mind.

The top layer of the pieced work and its drawn quilt pattern is placed together with a batting and back layer. This sandwich is then basted with large stitches to hold the three layers together. From here the real work begins. Following the pattern on the top, the quilter makes a small running stitch with heavy thread. In and out, up and down, three stitches on the needle. The quilt takes on another personality as the three layers are bound together with valleys and hills. It also takes on structure, becomes weighty, a thing of substance.

An intimate relationship between the artist and her work grows as the stitches crawl from center to edge. Ask a quilter about one of her works and she will tell you what was going on in her life at the time. "My husband was in the hospital and I made this during the hours he was in recovery." "This is for my first grandchild." I was feeling very blue at the time so I made a blue quilt." More than any other art form, quilting takes on the emotional state of its creator. This connection may be rooted in the fact that quilting is labor intensive — so many hours to think about what's going on your life. It's this emotional level of quilting that makes it such a personal art form. Each quilt is an expression not just of the artist's creativity, but of her life as well.

This weekend is the bi-annual Tompkins County Quilter's Guild at the Women's Community Center. Hung from frames will be over a hundred quilts made by women from this area. For a small entrance fee you can stand among this galaxy of color and movement. These quilts are not yet pieces of history. No, they are tidbits of the present — frozen in cloth. The designs and stitchery will dance before your eyes and just for a moment you will share their joy of creating a personal heritage. And who knows, you might be inspired to take needle in hand. □

The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild Show is Friday through Saturday, October 13-15, at the Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St. Hours are Friday 6-9pm and Saturday and Sunday 10am to 5pm. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and seniors.



RANDI ANGLIN, Contributing photographer

JEDIAH, 4, watches while his mother, Lorin Spencer, sews an applique quilt design she calls "Pueblo Bird" at her studio in Homer. On

the wall hangs "Gradations," a log cabin style quilt. Spencer is entered in next weekend's Tompkins County Quilter's Guild show.

Quilter revives 'dyeing' art

By John S. Tonello
Staff Writer

HOMER — The pungent aroma of simmering vinegar and wild berries filled professional quilter Lorin Spencer's home last week, but she wasn't preparing a meal. She was dyeing cloth.

On the stove, a large kettle of berry juices bubbled half full, turning a piece of white linen to shades of purple. It's the first step for Spencer who boils roots, leaves, flowers and berries to dye the subtle shades of cloth for her handmade quilts.

"It's an ancient art for me," said Spencer, a 28-year-old mother who spends hours each day dyeing and sewing cloth into colorful and practical quilt artwork at her home on Route 41. "It's kind of visiting the past."

Spencer will be one of about 40 quilters displaying antique and contemporary quilts during the Tompkins County Quilters Guild's biannual show at the Women's Community Center at 100 W. Seneca St. in Ithaca. Beginning Friday and running through Oct. 15, more than 100 quilts for show and sale will be on display.

Part of the charm of quilts is the painstaking care their makers sew into them. But the tradition of middle-aged women sitting

around sewing bits of cloth into heirlooms has given way to a new era of quilting that involves women of all ages and walks of life, said Brigid Hubberman, a quilter and member of the Quilters Guild.

"There's a lot of binding of women through quilting," she added.

There's also a lot of individual expression. Quilts stitched together by women — and men — aren't available in department stores, but instead come from the minds of their creators, like Spencer.

"It's hand done and no one's hand is the same," Spencer said. Each is an individual effort. "Like looking into a person's soul," she said.

For Spencer, a naturalist who enjoys working with mostly, but not exclusively, natural cloths and dyes, the quilting effort starts from the ground. But she said she gets her greatest satisfaction out of the design process.

On a wooden frame in her home quilting studio hangs a multi-colored, rainbow-inspired log cabin quilt that boasts bright purples, yellows and blues, all stitched together in square spirals. On the opposite wall hangs a wintry quilt that's about half finished. The cotton cloth shapes form a colorful balance of

peach, autumn-orange and blue-flowered patterns.

The ideas come from other art, her mind or customers who want something special and order quilts on commission, Spencer said. Sometimes she looks at the colored cloth she has available and a design evolves, she added.

The separate pieces are laid out and then joined on Spencer's 1915 Singer pedal sewing machine, which gives a straight stitch that can punch through as many as four layers of leather. And that's where the mechanization ends.

Spencer sews the pieced-together front, the batting — that soft middle layer of the quilt — and the backing by hand. She uses a loop or frame to hold the material and creates hand-stitched designs. About 50 hours later a double bed-sized quilt is born.

"I think of them as heirlooms," she said. "That's why I make them to last 200 years."

Spencer's work, which can cost anywhere from \$300 to \$1,000 for a full-sized quilt, will be on sale at the Guild show. Tickets for that show, which runs from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 14 and 15, are \$2 for adults and \$1 for senior citizens and children.

Spencer can be reached at (607) 749-3404.



CENTER:
The Tompkins County
Quilters Guild presents
their 1989 show
Quilts of Course
Pages 8 & 9

ART

Quilts of Course!

Quilters piece together their 1989 Show



YIP AND PINE TREES: Cathy Carr got involved in quilting when her sister offered to make her a quilt as a wedding gift. Cathy followed through with a quilt that she made for Cathy Carr. Cathy Carr is the artist and maker of the quilt. She has completed two quilts and still has don't have a finished quilt. Cathy Carr is a wonderful way to learn to quilt and be creative.

GRADUATIONS: Laura Spencer is a professional quilter. She came to have always had an interest in quilting and particularly enjoyed her time at her own home. "I'd begin to make more of my own quilts. I started to work with geometric patterns and had had the idea of it in mind to make one quilt. I have the quilt made for her. Now I have plans for many. The quilt shown here is a top fabric pattern done with fabric that General Janet Quilt. She will be shown two more quilts in the show.

QUILTS ARE A HISTORY: They are a pastime of women's history. A history that is not only recorded in the written word, but also in the lives of the women who have made them. A quilt is one of the most intimate of all the things that we do. It is a history of the everyday lives of the women who have made them. It is a history of the lives of the women who have made them. It is a history of the lives of the women who have made them.

THE LOCAL GUILD BEGAN: The local guild began as an outgrowth of a small show in 1973. Since then, a wide movement has developed in the area of quilting. The 1989 Tompkins County Quilters Guild show is a highlight of this movement with over 100 pieces of work represented. The show drew people from all over the county.

Quilts of Course!
WHAT: Tompkins County Quilters Guild 1989 Quilt Show
WHERE: Women's Community Building, 100 E. Seneca St., Ithaca
REOPEN: Fri. Oct. 13, 9-9 p.m. Sat. & Sun. Oct. 14 & 15, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
ADMISSION: \$2 Adults, \$1 Seniors & Students
INFORMATION: 377-6668



NOVEMBER REMEMBERS: Lisa Turner's first experience with quilts was sewing the GDI quilts at the Finger Lakes Quilt Show in 1976. It was such an interest on her that she decided to start making one right away. And over the past 13 years she has made 18 quilts. "I did a quilt, she likes it especially. Quilting is so much a part of my life that I can't separate myself from it. The quilt shown here is a companion to a quilt made for our President of Course, Diane Mallard. The fabric is all from his neckties. It is one of two of Turner's quilts in the weekend's show.



RETIREMENT IS: As you will know through the show, you will see why an award President, Aurora Foxworth says. "Quilting is a wonderful way to learn to quilt and be creative."



WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE? Mary Ann Tice has been a quilt artist for 15 years and is well known in Ithaca for her embroidered and quilted work. She has made the Finger Lakes Quilt Show a highlight of her life. She has made the Finger Lakes Quilt Show a highlight of her life. She has made the Finger Lakes Quilt Show a highlight of her life.



HAPPY BIRTHDAYS: Ann, Denise and I have had our own quilting group for several years. We have made many quilts for our friends and family. We have made many quilts for our friends and family. We have made many quilts for our friends and family.



RETIREMENT IS: As you will know through the show, you will see why an award President, Aurora Foxworth says. "Quilting is a wonderful way to learn to quilt and be creative."

A LADY CAROL: In the Fall of 1988, I made the quilt for the first time. I was looking for a quilt to make for my sister and I decided to make one. I made the quilt for my sister and I decided to make one. I made the quilt for my sister and I decided to make one.



ARTS & LEISURE / THURSDAY, October 12-13, 1989

ARTS & LEISURE / THURSDAY, October 12-13, 1989

Take a moment to vote for your favorite quilt or quilted item in each of the six categories. Each entry has a 3 digit number visibly pinned to it.

- Contemporary 100 to 151
- Antique 200 to 216
- Small Quilts 300 to 317
- Wall Hanging 400 to 434
- Clothing 500 to 502
- Miniature 600 to 615

QUILT SHOW CRITIQUE

What did you like about the show?
What did you dislike about the show?
What suggestions do you have to improve the next show?
How did you hear about the quilt show?
Member?....., Poster?....., Flyer?.....
Newspaper?....., Ithaca Journal?.....
Grapevine?....., Ithaca Times?.....
Trumansburg Press?....., Dryden Dollar Saver?....., Fabric Store?.....
Other?.....
Home town.....



1989 Show Pin

Viewers' Choice Ballot
for 1989 Show

Viewer's Choice Awards - 1989



Contemporary -
Will's Log Cabin Quilt
Bonnie Hill



↑ Wall Hangings -
Chicken Quilt
Jonathon Pease



← Small Quilts -
World Book Oak Leaf
Brigid Hubberman



Antique - Birds in Flight
Susan Hilliker



Miniature - Ohio Rose
Ruth Him

Clothing
Jacket
Mary Anne Troble

Schweinfurth 1989

One of our November meetings was a trip
to the museum to see the exhibit
Quilts=Art=Quilts



Nancy Sobel
A Midwinter Night's Dream

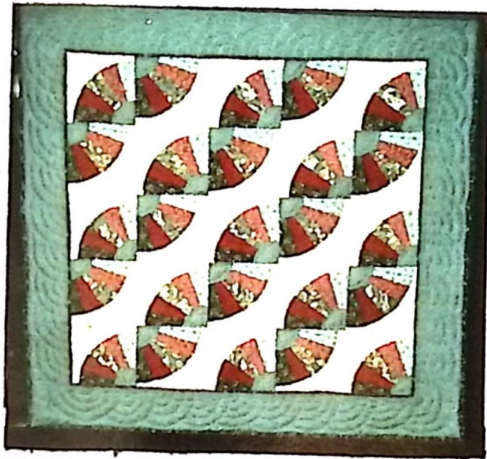
Other members who exhibited were:
Brigid Hubberman
Mary Lehmann

Betty Granholm was on the traditional jurors panel

1990



Baby quilt for
Donna Hall -
Windmill
March 1990



Dear Quilters Guild,

Thank-you for your Gift Certificate. I'm looking forward to using it.

I work for over 3 years on my 100% handmade quilt. I made a 9 patch quilt with a blue block base.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Melanie Jewell

4H Winner - 1990

May 2, 1990

Dear friends,

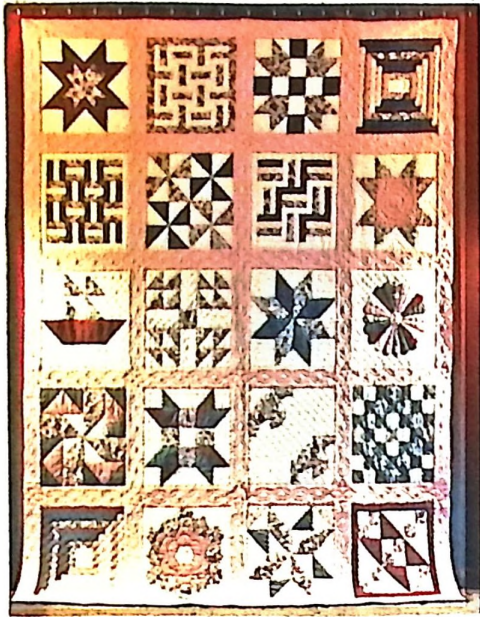
May 1st was a "red letter" day for me when I received your beautiful quilted hanging. It will be hanging on one of my living room walls - the colors are perfect.

You are such a wonderful, supportive group of women - an asset to the Adelia community.

Many thanks for your kindness.

Sincerely,
Jean Kingham

Wall hanging made in appreciation for legal services in connection with obtaining TCQG's Incorporation.



State Fair Award 1990
Linda Kronenwetter - "Sampler"
7620 Fisher Rd, Ontario NY



Retiring President's Quilt 1990
Alanna Fontanella



Baby Quilt - 1991
Casey Carr - Andrew's Quilt



Baby Quilt - 1991
Gail Zussman - Johanna's Quilt



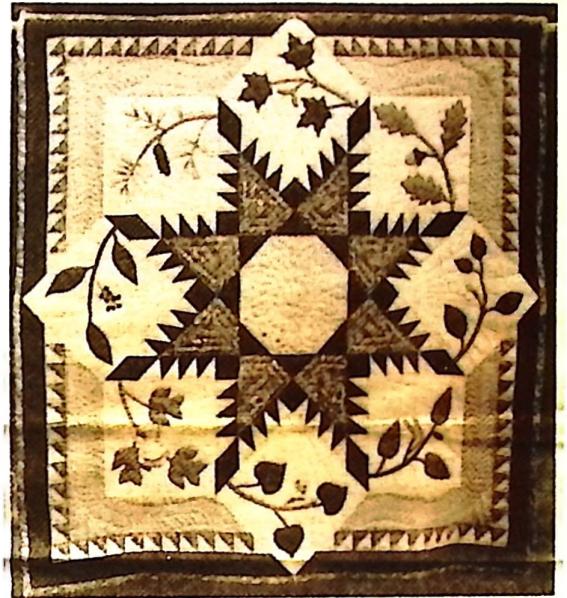
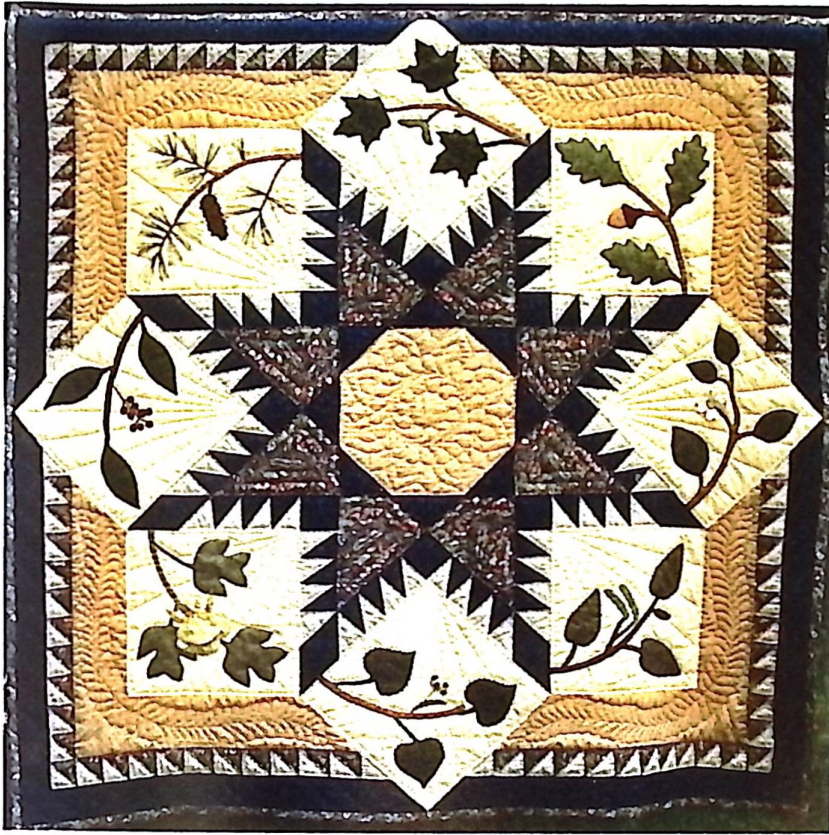
Baby quilt - 1991
Cindy Stothower -
Peter being held
by Katie Cogswell

← Front

Back →



“Trees of Cayuga Nature Center”
 Service quilt for Cayuga Nature Center.
 Brigid Hubberman organized the project.
 December 1990



The Cayuga Nature Center is holding its Second Annual Winter Solstice Celebration and Quilt Drawing on Thursday, Dec. 30 from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Cayuga Nature Center at 1420 Taughannock Blvd., five miles past Cass Park. Certain results of the Solstice will be celebrated, including bringing in the Yule Log, lighting it with a splint from last year's log, music and examining the traditions of the evergreen. There will be refreshments made from "fertility" greens. A donation is free to members: \$1 for non-member adults; \$1 for non-member children. For more details call the Nature Center at 273-6260.

Nature Center Nears Goal

ITHACA — With two months to go before the deadline arrives for the Cayuga Nature Center's acquisition fund drive, the center has raised \$191,000 of its \$200,000 goal.

With only \$9,000 left to go, Fundraising Campaign Chairperson Nancy Dolge is hoping that those who have not yet contributed to the project will "make a contribution and put us over the top."

Since the campaign kicked off in September 1989, the nature center has been raising funds to purchase 40 1/2 acres adjacent to its existing facility on Rte. 89, about five miles north of Ithaca. The parcel includes meadows, ponds and a 10-foot woodland waterfall. In addition, there are six buildings included in the purchase.

The center served 31,691 people in 1989-90, and 47 percent were schoolchildren. Dolge said "the community support has been unbelievable with individuals contributing over \$70,000. It's encouraging to know how much the public values environmental education."

In August, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild donated a handmade quilt entitled "Trees of the Cayuga Nature Center" to the campaign. The quilt is being displayed around the county and a one dollar donation will give participants a chance to own this priceless piece of handwork.



The "Trees of Cayuga Nature Center" quilt which will be won by someone at the Dec. 30 drawing.

Drawing for the quilt will be Thursday, Dec. 30 at the nature center's Winter Solstice celebration, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Tickets for the drawing are available at Cat's Pajamas, Cornell Plantations, Quilts 'n' Things in Varna (Rte. 366), Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce's Visitors Bureau and at the Grapevine offices, 108 S. Albany St.

Persons can see the quilt at the Trumansburg Craft Fair on Dec. 1 and 2 at the Trumansburg Elementary School. Hours of the craft sale are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 1, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 2.

The work was quilted by Mary Carver, and the following made applique blocks: Liz Henry, Elsie Deates, Brigid C. Hubberman, Jean Pluck and Alanna Fontanella.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the fund drive should write a check payable to Cayuga Nature Center Property Fund, in care of the Cayuga Nature Center, 1420 Taughannock Boulevard, Ithaca NY 14850, or call 273-6260. ■



Ithacans shine in Schweinfurth's 'Quilts—Art—Quilts'

By KAREY SOLOMON
Special to The Journal

IF THE WORD "quilt" brings thoughts of a sleepy good night, the current exhibit at Auburn's Schweinfurth Museum is guaranteed to be a mind-boggling awakening. Traditional and innovative fiber artists from 24 states have created the 261 works of art on view. Yes, some are calico. Many others incorporate unusual fabrics and techniques to stretch the definition of quilting far beyond its usual boundaries.

Quiltmakers usually describe a quilt's structure as a "fiber sandwich" whose front and back are the "bread" enclosing a layer of quilt-batting "butter." But look carefully — this is not always the case.

Susan Marteney, Associate Director and Installation Technician for the Schweinfurth, said that all the quilts submitted were carefully scrutinized before acceptance into the show. Workmanship, design, the handling of materials and what Marteney calls "the overall aesthetic appeal" of the quilt are just a few of the criteria applied to the judging.

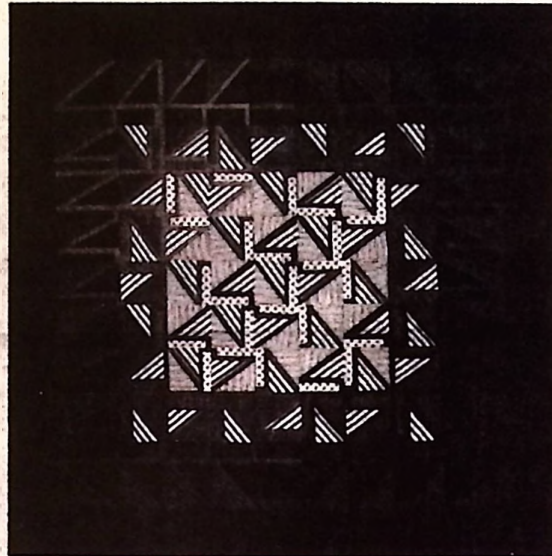
The briefest glance tells the viewer that thousands of tiny

stitches have gone into almost every quilt. A closer look reveals a wealth of fiber manipulation techniques: bleach or "reverse" dyeing, photocopy on fabric, wetting and embroidery are just a few of the methods used.

Perhaps most astonishing is the precise attention paid to the smallest details: the use of extremely tiny pieces of fabric (often in variations on Seminole Patchwork) or patterned fabric cut and pieced to create entirely new designs. Nancy Crow, one of the exhibit's jurors, describes much of her own work (on display in an adjacent gallery area) as "designed intuitively."

Nancy Ann Sobel, Brooktondale's consistent blue-ribbon winner, received a judge's choice award for her quilt, "Dawn Splendor." Sobel's star design with applique flowers looks highly traditional — until the viewer notices two embroidered spiderwebs, spiders and numerous ants. But never fear: quilted-in are 16 hungry robins and 8 dive-bombing birds ready to set things straight.

Sobel kept a journal of the quilt's progress. She reveals that the path from fabric to finished product does not always run smooth. On September 7, 1989, she wrote "Laid pieces out on bed to get a new perspective and experimented with colors... still



'HOT NOTES': The above quilt (50x50 inches) by Judy Becker of Newton, Mass. is on view at during the "Quilts—Art—Quilts" 1990 national juried quilt show at Schweinfurth Art Center in Auburn through Jan. 1.

discouraged about colors, maybe I should go on to something else." Further on, we read that an accidental encounter between quilt fabric

and a daughter's tie-dye project inspired many of the embroidered embellishments.

Fiber arts (as well as dyes) clearly run in this family: daughter Tammy Sobel of Ithaca won a third place award in the Beginner/Intermediate Traditional category for her quilt, "A Merry Heart."

"There's a move towards embellishment, even on traditional quilts," Marteney says.

It seems that for non-traditional quilters, almost anything goes. Among the most outrageous examples is "For the Birds: A Green Quilt" by Shie Accord of Wooster, Ohio. Accord used clay figures, wooden spoons, beads, crystals, ceramic masks, squeeze-on paint, Guatemalan pot-holders, metallics, leather and buttons on her quilt. In surveying this quilt,

Quilt Show and Quilt Weekend

- **WHERE:** Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center, 205 W. Genesee St., Auburn.
- **WHEN:** Through Jan. 1.
- **HOURS:** Tues.-Fri., noon-5 p.m.; Sat., 10-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m.
- **INFORMATION:** (315)255-1553.

the eye finishes with the credo roughly embroidered along the bottom: "When I let all my grievances go, I will know I am perfectly safe. With all creation, I will share peace."

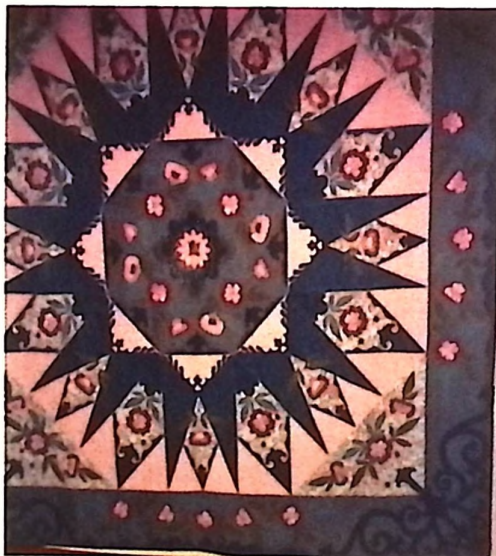
"Hail Rock and Roll," by Ariel Alberga-Martin of Lansing uses a little more restraint in evoking the rock and roll era with a three-dimensional hanging that literally reaches out to the viewer.

Among the comic quilts — and these will be an eye-opener for anyone who never realized that quilts can indeed be funny — look for the "Ugly Tie Contest" by Diane Rode-Schneck of New York City and "Spring Peeper's Ball" by Jean Evans of Medina, New York, who won second and third place respectively in this category.

Look too for "Will's Quilt" by Bonnie Keith Hall and "Margaret's Quilt" by Andy Jordan, both of Ithaca. These two maiden efforts earned their makers honorable mention in the Beginner/Intermediate category. Ithacan Judi Heath's "Puzzle" is another visual treat.

This show, which runs through the end of 1990, is not one to be missed. Despite its venue in a small rural community, it's become a major showcase for important fiber work. Says Marteney, "It's interesting to see that people who've been in our show four and five years ago worked their way up through the ranks and now have national stature. They're influencing the new quilters." □

Ithaca Journal
December 20, 1990



Nancy Sobel
Judge's Choice Award
Dawn Splendor

Several members won awards:

Judi Heath Honorable Mention for her
Advanced traditional wall hanging

Bonnie Hill Honorable Mention for her
Beginner/Intermediate traditional wall
hanging

1991

NY/PA QUILTERS CONSORTIUM-1991



MINI-HOLIDAY
OWEGO

Ann Boyce's
Fashion
Show

← Donna Hall in a
"house" dress

Mary Lehmann →
in a "bag" dress



USA Fabric Challenge -

Each Consortium delegate was given a piece of fabric with which to make an item of their choice for display at the next "Holiday". Portions of the display circulated among member guilds.



Mary Anne Treble



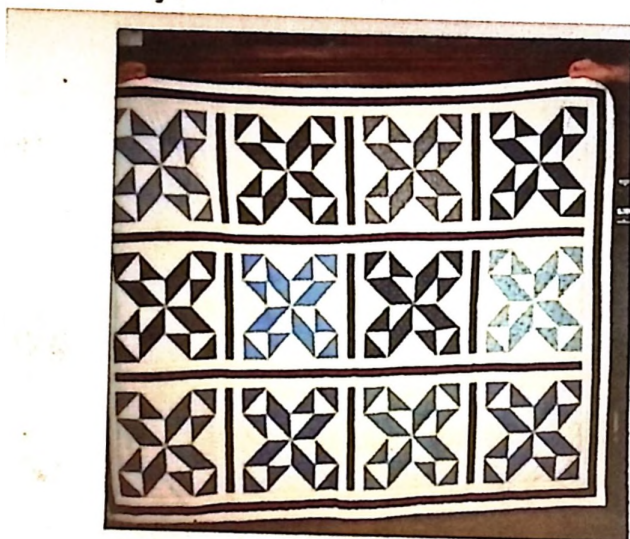
Small quilt made by TCAG



Spring 1991 Fish fabric
Block exchange - Cindy Slothower's
winning plus a few from a friend



St. 44 Winner - July 1991
Emily Eshelman - Laura Ashley
Log Cabin



Learning quilt - coached
by Barbara Dimock 1984-1991
Completed quilt given to
Habitat for Humanity for
use as a fund raiser.



1991 Show Selection Committee

Katie Barnaby
Mary Anne Treble
Virginia Fenton

Volunteers at Selection Day - 1991



Jeannie Pluck, Alanna Fontanella and ?
with raffle quilt

at
Ithaca
High
School



Casey Carr and Mary Lehmann



Margie Bracewell and Marian DeGloria



Virginia Fenton



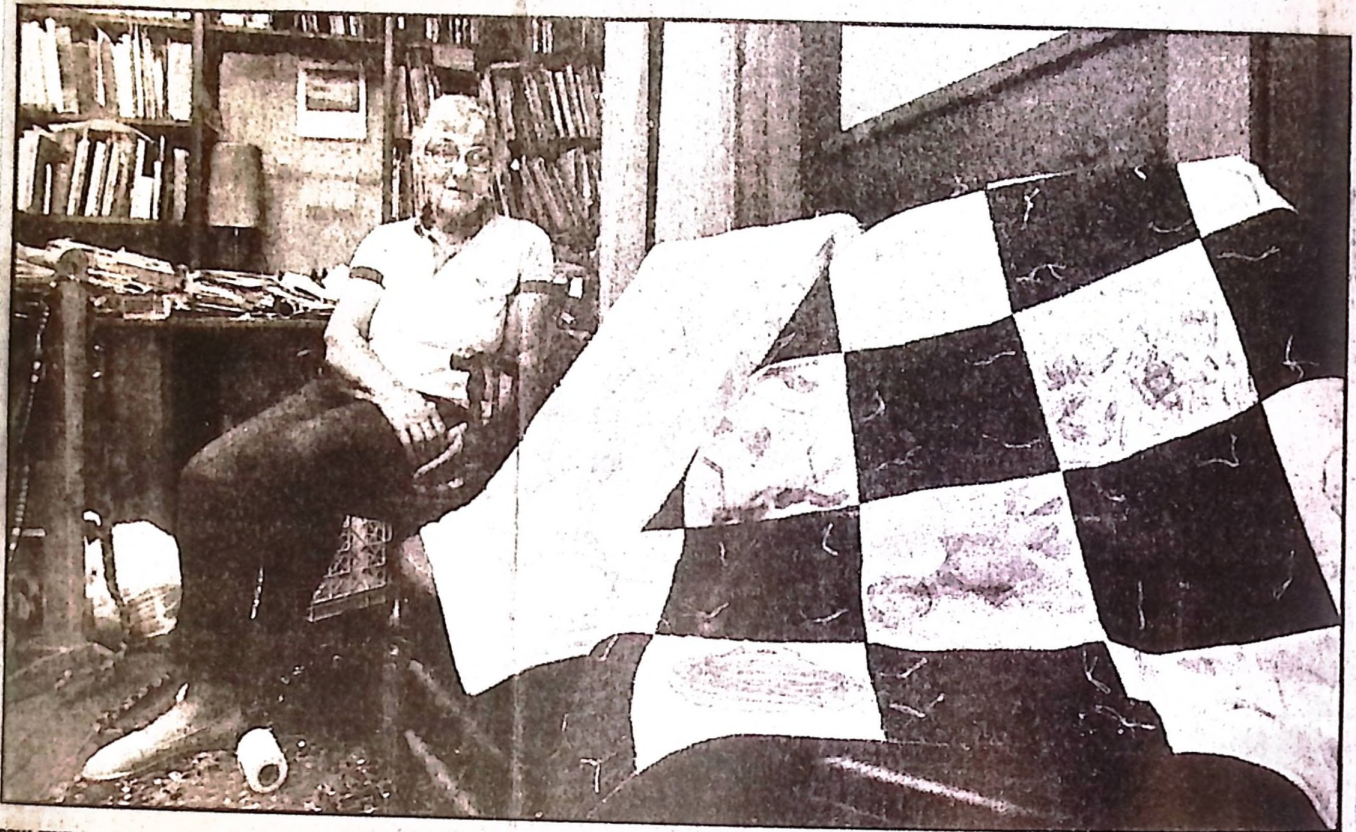
Ruth Him and Sally Dutko

Guild Members in the News

Betty MacKenzie

Quilting with care

IJ - OurTown
9/3/91



SEW FINE: Lansing quilter Betty MacKenzie displays quilts designed for the ABC Quilts project. MacKenzie taught quilting to the Lansing Residential Center girls. DONNA MOGARDO/Special to The Journal

Lansing center teens patch quilts for babies with AIDS

By KAREY SOLOMON
Journal Staff

LANSING — Lessons about AIDS and needlework were stitched together as part of a recreation and wellness program for a group of teenage girls at the Lansing Residential Center.

The teens not only learned how to make warm and beautiful quilts, but they gave them away to babies who have AIDS.

The Lansing facility — a secure detention center for juvenile delinquent girls, located on Route 34 — is one last chance for many whose assaultive, runaway or other behavior patterns led them here.

Personal belongings and posters can't disguise the institutional setting. However, perhaps this inspires some of the girls' compassion, which they worked into quilts for the babies and young children whose lives are similarly bounded by the orchestrated routine of a hospital ward.

"I feel sad thinking about these babies," says Letitia, whose last name is not used because of confidentiality.

But by participating in the ABC (AIDS Baby Crib) Quilts project, Letitia was able to do something constructive with that feeling. The project, run by an all-volunteer organization, distributes the new, homemade baby quilts to HIV positive babies and young children.

Using materials donated by other quilters, including several of their teachers, the girls in March embroidered panels expressing their wishes and love toward babies they might never see.

Each quilt bears a special message or design: "You are special," "I Love You," "A Baby Needs Love," and



DONNA MOGARDO/Special to The Journal

WARM WORDS: One of the many personal messages embroidered on baby quilts made at the center.

"World of Babys" are a few of the thoughts the quilts bear.

Betty MacKenzie, a Lansing quiltmaker who has made many crib quilts to give away to HIV positive babies, heard

through a grapevine of mutual friends that her help was needed. So she spent time at the center, teaching the basics of quilt construction to the students.

"I like to teach and I like children," says MacKenzie, a retired elementary school teacher. "So putting the two together was really interesting to me. And the counselors were as interested as the girls were, and they loved hands-on things."

The girls who came to the building's cafeteria on a recent summer morning to talk about their work on the project were a group of soft-spoken, demure 16 and 17 year olds. The six weeks most of them spent on their quilts had been thought-provoking as well as creative.

"I was trying to imagine what a little baby looked at," says Simone. "I thought of a tiny kid holding on to it when going to sleep. No matter what, I love little babies."

Gloria, who speaks Spanish, explains shyly that making her quilt was a way of relating to her own 5-month-old daughter, who lives elsewhere.

Youth worker Ines Nieves, who translated for Gloria, adds, "It was meaningful because it was something the girls could contribute. They're not just getting help themselves."

Groton resident Elizabeth Brauner, area coordinator for the ABC Quilts project, explains that although a quilt's donor usually inscribes her name on the quilt, the confidentiality of the recipient is protected. The quilts are distributed to the HIV positive infants by hospitals, social workers and other intermediaries.

For the girls at the Lansing Residential Center, learning about AIDS became a riveting aspect of the project.

Brigid Hubberman

T-burg Quilting Duo Ready for '91 Show

By J. Sheldon

"Quilting is therapeutic, it's an outlet — a creative outlet." This according to Brigid Hubberman, an Ithaca quilter who grew up in Trumansburg. She is a long-time member of the Tompkins County Quilting Guild (headed by Donna Hall of Ithaca), and is the publicity chairperson for "Quilts," a show that has been presented biannually since 1979.

This year's show, "Quilts 1991," will be held at Ithaca High School (1401 N. Cayuga St.). Over 200 quilts, both antique and new, small and large, in traditional and contemporary designs, will be on display. Vendors will be selling fabrics especially suited to quilting, sewing machines (with the "even-feed" foot needed for sewing several layers of cloth), as well as a huge array of quilting supplies and equipment. In addition there will be demonstrations every hour. For those whose tastes run more toward clothes, jackets and other quilted items will be on sale as well.

One of the special features of this year's quilt show is the AIDS Baby Crib quilt that will be on display. ABC Quilts is a national effort to give a colorful, warm quilt to every baby with AIDS. Quilters all over the U.S. are working to make this happen. At the quilt show you will find a place to drop off clean, cotton fabric scraps that will be used to make more AIDS baby quilts. Donations of batting, thread or money for materials, delivery costs and office supplies are also appreciated. (The area coordinator is Elizabeth O. Brauner, 512 Cayuga Heights Rd., Ithaca; T: 257-7965.)

Brigid and her mother, who still lives in Trumansburg, are a quilting team. Brigid pieces and applies the tops, and her mother does the quilting stitches. These are small running stitches that not only hold the quilt to its backing, but also give it a special design, which is both independent of and in agreement with the design suggested by the pieces that make the top. Often the quilting stitches are designed to form a sort of visual counterpoint to the pattern of the patches. They are in a sense the signature of the quilter. "Everyone at quilting guild teases me," said Brigid, laughing. "How can you be a quilter if you don't do the quilting stitches? But I don't have the patience for them. I much prefer to work out the design of the top — which my mother has no interest in doing." So they work well together.

Brigid started quilting in 1977, the year after the big Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Show. "I kick myself to this day that I didn't go to that show," she said. In any case, that year she decided she wanted to



Brigitte Hubberman stitches a quilt square.

photo by Skip Thorne

make a gift for her parents, so she made a quilt. That is, she made a quilt top — which her mother then sewed to a backing with quilting stitches, and so they began their collaboration.

The bicentennial brought a resurgence of interest in American crafts in general, and quilting in particular. Though quilting came from Europe, it was particularly appropriate craft for American settlers. Patches of left-over cloth could be put together in blocks about 12 inches square, set aside and accumulated until there were enough blocks to make a blanket. Nowadays most quilters, though they may make their first quilt with left-overs, tend to buy cloth specially for quilting. "My husband kids me — 'You're cutting up fabric in order to put it back together again,'" Brigid said, adding with a big grin, "Only a non-quilter would say that!"

We went for a tour of the quilts on display in windows and in banks on the Ithaca Commons. In Citizens Bank there's a great white quilt with a big, bright star on it whose colors seem inspired by American Indian designs. Someone's grandmother made it; it's from Kentucky, and it's called "Lone Star." We stood for a long time in front of Eleanor

Abbot's extraordinary "Compass Rose," in the Tompkins County Trust Company, admiring its skillful blend of blues, purples and whites, and the richness of its quilting. "I think what quilters go for most is texture," Brigid commented. "Quilters always touch the cloth in a cloth store."

To make a quilt, start with a blanket-sized piece of plain or print cloth. To that you baste a filler, "batting" as it's called, and on top you lay the patchwork of pieces that give the quilt its colors, stitching all three together in a (preferably) pre-conceived design. A large, standing frame is usually used to baste the batting to the quilt. The frame has four posts that can be positioned at different points along the framing bars, in order to accommodate larger and smaller quilts. The framing bars are topped with cloth, to which the backing is pinned. You lay the backing over the framework and pin it down; then you roll the batting out over it, lay the patchwork on top, and baste. In basting, start at the center of the quilt and

continued on page 4

Quilting *continued*

stitch out to the four posts, making diagonals; then baste your way out to the sides; and finally lengthwise and crosswise, making a grid of six-inch blocks. The basting stitches are removed, of course, after the quilting is done. Some people leave the quilt on the frame to do the quilting stitches; some do the quilting stitches with a sewing machine. Brigid's mother prefers to hold her work on her lap, so she uses a wooden hoop (like that used by embroiderers), which holds small portions of the quilt taut while she stitches.

There are lots of books and magazines to help you get started with quilting, if you're interested. Apparently, fifteen years ago there were only two journals published on the subject in the U.S., but now there are over twelve. The selection of fabric is also quite a bit better now than it used to be, partly the result of a general interest in the use of natural fibers. Cotton and wool, both smooth and flannel, are well suited to quilting.

Sunday, October 6 from 9am to 5pm. As well as all the other activities, at 5pm Saturday and 2pm Sunday, actress Donna Hall will perform excerpts from the play "The Quilt Lady." There will also be a drawing for a quilt called "Stars of the Finger Lakes." While you're in town, you can visit the Commons, where the Apple Harvest Festival and the Fall Craft Fair will be in progress at the same time. A free shuttle, running every half hour on both days, will connect the high school and the Clinton House. For more information on quilts, the Tompkins County Quilters' Guild, and the show, call Brigid Hubberman at 277-6065.

"The intriguing thing about quilts is that they evoke such a strong response from people," Brigid said. Three women from the Quilters' Guild, Betty Mackenzie, Donna Hall and Alanna Fontanella, went out to the Lansing School for Girls to teach them how to quilt. The quilters had no trouble exciting the girls' interest. They made quilts for AIDS babies, and even embroidered verses on them. "You don't have to be under a quilt to feel its warmth," Brigid continued.

One of the managers at the Trust Company said that the one hanging in their entrance lobby had drawn a lot of comment from the customers at the bank. "Perhaps people are nostalgic for homemade things," she said.

The "Quilts 1991" show at Ithaca High School will take place Saturday, October 5 from 9am to 6pm and

Lisa Turner



Lisa
Seegmiller
Turner
'74



Presidential Quilts

Quilter Lisa Turner and President Emeritus Deane W. Malott started collaborating on quilts in 1979, after Malott, who lives in Ithaca, contacted the local quilter's guild for help in finishing a quilt made from pieces of his neckties. Turner took the pieces apart and, after considering them, went back to the source for more ties. Then, she says, she made a "Log Cabin Star quilt in bright gold, blue, and red . . . Mr. Malott, as Cornell's president, had a great many red ties."

In 1988, Malott asked Turner to make the quilt shown in this photo. The ties for this one contained more muted colors, so Turner supplemented them with pieces from a gold brocade dress and two scarves donated to the cause by Eleanor Malott, the former president's wife. Tie pieces that are embroidered with McGraw Tower are visible near the center. In the border, some of the pieces contain embroidered Jayhawks from the University of Kansas, Malott's alma mater. This quilt, titled "November Remembers," is currently owned by the University of Kansas museum.

More recent quilts for the Malott family contain pieces of silk, cotton, and linen from Eleanor Malott's dresses. Each, says Turner, "has served as a lesson; I have had to try new techniques and solve new problems in design."

Turner is a former manuscript editor for Cornell University Press who now mixes quilting with volunteer work and motherhood. Some of her quilts are being shown October 5 and 6 at Ithaca High School as part of a Tompkins County Quilters Guild show.

Cornell Alumni News
September 1991

Bonnie Hill

Our Special Person

BONNIE HILL

was the winner of the Viewer's Choice award for Contemporary Quilt at the Tompkins County Quilt Guild show, *Quilts, Of Course! Will's Quilt*, a stunning Log Cabin, was her first full size quilt. Bonnie is an enthusiastic quilter; she likes the classes we offer and takes as many as possible. She has an instinctive color sense which results in beautiful quilts. A current project is a similar quilt centered with a star which is for another son.

Quilts 'n Things
January 1990 newsletter



QUILTS 1991

Celebrating
Fifteen Years of
Warmth and Beauty



Quilt Drawing

Donation: \$1.00 per ticket
or 7 tickets for \$5.00

Drawing: Sunday, October 6
at 4 p.m.
Ithaca High School

For tickets see
Alanna, Suite 230

◆ Tompkins County Quilters Guild ◆



Quilts 'n Things

Create An Heirloom

980 DRYDEN RD. ITHACA, N.Y. 14850 (607) 277-6831

NEWSLETTER

September 1991 - Volume 4, Number 3

!!!! CONNECTIONS!!!! CONNECTIONS!!!! CONNECTIONS!!!! CONNECTIONS!!!!

Your first memories of quilting may be your mother or grandmother working on some project. No doubt the quilts of yesterday were mainly made for warmth! And yet, so many quilting blocks and overall designs were born from this basic need. Just mention the word quilt in many households and you will be amazed, if you have not been already, at the number of treasures that appear before your eyes, to behold! From these warm and ingenious roots, quilting has moved toward the more artistic focus of today! While the history of quilting was for a long time orally and "materially" handed down from generation to generation, the first national gathering of quilt enthusiasts occurred as the **1976 BICENTENNIAL QUILT SHOW** held at the Ithaca High School in August 1976. Besides lectures and workshops, this quilt show had 600 quilts on display. This local spark helped to spawn other quilting symposia from 1976 to 1980 in locations all over the country including Nassau County, Long Island; Houston, Texas; Lincoln, Nebraska; Lawrence, Kansas; Portland, Oregon; Arlington, Virginia; Santa Clara, California; Troy, Michigan; St. Paul, Minnesota; and Columbia, Missouri. These gatherings continue today and new events have developed such as the regular Quilt Market. During this time, publications started such as the Quilter's Newsletter Magazine and the Quilt Engagement Calendar.

Originally formed in 1975, **THE TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTER'S GUILD** meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at the Women's Community Building from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. For a small annual fee of \$15.00, the **TCQ GUILD** offers a lending library, show & tell for its members, guest speakers, outside trips, quilting education for the public and community service which includes raffle quilts and shows. Call Donna Hall, the current **TCQ GUILD** President, at 273-5824.

This brings our local quilting history full circle to the upcoming **BIENNIAL QUILT SHOW OF THE TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTER'S GUILD ON OCTOBER 5 & 6 AT THE ITHACA HIGH SCHOOL. THE SHOW IS ENTITLED, "QUILTS 1991: CELEBRATING FIFTEEN YEARS OF WARMTH AND BEAUTY."** This theme commemorates the fifteen years of quilting activities since the **1976 BICENTENNIAL QUILT SHOW** and forms a **CONNECTION** to our history. This event will feature 200 quilts and quilted items on display from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday, October 5, and from 9:00 to 5:00 on Sunday, October 6. Demonstrations will be given daily and vendors will be present during the show. **VIEWER'S CHOICE AWARDS** will be chosen in six categories by those in attendance; come and pick your favorite! A quilt entitled, **"STARS OF THE FINGER LAKES"** will be raffled; tickets are available at the store. For more information call Brigid Hubberman at 277-6065.



QUILTS 1991

Celebrating
Fifteen Years of
Warmth and Beauty

FOR FALL 1991 - PENDLETON WEEKEND. A YEARLY TRADITION, ONLY AT HOLLEY'S

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 & SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Join us as we welcome **PENDLETON** with interesting guest, fashion modelling, complimentary refreshments and more.

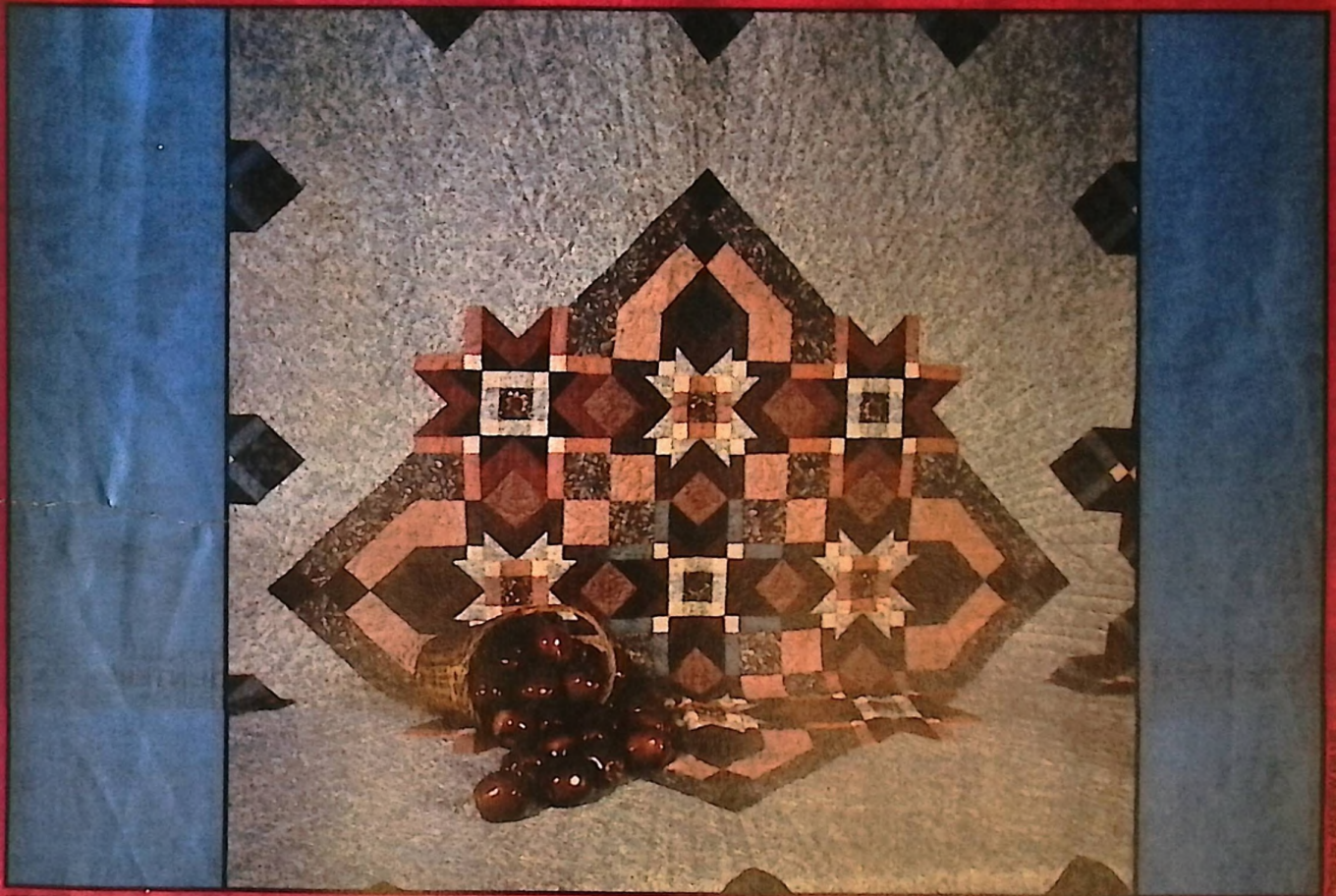
On Saturday, enjoy a demonstration of wool spinning by **"THE BLACK SHEEP HAND SPINNERS."**

A pre-show display of the 1991 **TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD QUILT SHOW** will be featured in our store.



Ithaca Journal
September 12, 1991

Arts & Leisure



'STARS OF THE FINGER LAKES': This collaborative effort of The Quilters Guild will be on display at the Quilt festival this weekend. Other Downtown Ithaca festivities include Lace Day and the annual Apple Harvest Festival. Kerey Solomon previews all on page 15.

Fall flurry of festivals

Apple Fest, Lace Day & Quilt Show dominate downtown

By KAREY SOLOMON
Special to The Journal

Despite this past summer's less-than-ideal weather, the apples this year are bountiful. So is the harvest of festive events scheduled for this weekend in the Ithaca area.

Downtown on the Commons, a cornucopia of food, crafts and performances will be presented; at Ithaca High School and at the Women's Community Building, two area fibers guilds will be displaying and demonstrating their common thread.

The Quilt Show, produced by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, happens only once in two years. This year it's located at Ithaca High School on Cayuga Street, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday October 5 and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Guild member Brigit Hubberman says of the guild's 55 members, "Some are not quilters, some are new quilters, others are grandmothers who made them at their grandmothers' knee. We cut up fabric to put it back together again," she says with a smile. "It's a very special thing."

More than 200 quilts will be on display at the High School — plus a lot of quilted wearables. Attendees will receive a printed catalog describing the quilts and quilters. Some of the quilts are for

sale.

Among the show's high points are several collaborative efforts including the "Stars of the Finger Lakes" quilt (see cover) made by the guild as a fund-raiser. "We had six people choosing colors, which was really a riot," Hubberman says. Striking shades of blue and rose are combined in this elegant and original design.

At the other end of the quilt spectrum are several less-sophisticated AIDS baby quilts, which will be shown here before they're sent on to be distributed to HIV positive infants and young children. Information on creating quilts for this cause will be available and people are invited to drop off cotton fabric to be used in future AIDS baby quilts.

A sale area will offer quilt supplies, books, sewing machines and fabric. Demonstrations of quilting and fabric handling techniques — including several that may be done with children — are also on the menu of quilt-related events.

Donna Hall, actress and quilter, will present her "Quilt Lady" performance on several occasions this weekend — once each day at the Quilt Show with an additional performance on the Commons on Saturday. Hall acted in the acclaimed dramatic production "The Quilters" which was performed several years ago Off-




Photo by ANDREW GILLIS

THE LOVE APPLE: Eleanor Abbott's quilt appears in the Quilt Festival this weekend.

Broadway and in several upstate cities. She will be expanding on her role in this production for Ithaca audiences this weekend.

General admission to the Quilt Show is \$2; \$1 for seniors and students. For more information about the quilt show, call Hubberman at 277-6065.

There's a lot of free parking near Ithaca High School as well as a free shuttlebus service on the half-hour between the High School and the downtown area — Clinton Hall, Cornell Orchards is offering each passenger a complimentary apple.



Tompkins County Quilters Guild

QUILTS 1991

Celebrating Fifteen Years
of Warmth and Beauty

- Over 200 quilts and quilted items in a large location
- Vendors of fabric, books, sewing machines and quilt supplies
- Demonstrations daily
- Drawing for "Stars of the Finger Lakes" quilt
- Voting for quilt block contest "Our Beautiful Earth"
- Please drop off cotton fabric for AIDS baby quilts

Ithaca High School
1401 N. Cayuga Street, Ithaca, N.Y.

Saturday, October 5, 9-6pm
Sunday, October 6, 9-5pm

Admission \$2 for seniors and students

The Apple Harvest Festival on the Ithaca Commons, also Oct 5th will feature a Fall Craft Fair, music, refreshments, fresh produce, and more!

— Calendar Best Bets —

Quilting, Apples & Lace

Several local events will bring back old-time pleasures this week.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild will host **Quilts 1991**, celebrating 15 years of warmth and beauty with their quilts. Over 200 quilts and quilted items will be shown at Ithaca High School Sat., Oct. 5, 9-6 p.m. and Sun., Oct. 6, 9-5 p.m. There will be demonstrations, vendors, a quilt drawing, and voting for the quilt block contest on "Our Beautiful Earth."

Then head for downtown Ithaca for the **9th Annual Apple Harvest Weekend**, scheduled for Oct. 4, 5, and 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Celebrate the harvest with local produce, homemade baked goods, and continuous performances by area musicians, country dancers, puppeteers and street performers. Sat. and Sun. also feature the Downtown Fall Craft Fair with over 50 juried exhibitors.

Special this year: performances by the Apple Lady and the Quilt Lady. The *Apple Lady* is Ilse Sondheimer, author of the children's book *The Magic of Pomme*, which she will read from and sign. Donna Hall, *The Quilt Lady* is an actress and teacher who developed an interest in quilts when she appeared in the play *The Quilters*. She will talk about quilts and perform an excerpt from the play.

Free shuttle service with complimentary apples provided by Cornell Orchards will run between downtown and the Quilt Show.

Apple Harvest Festival

Quilts, Quilts and More Quilts

L. McCANDLESS

To look at them, you wouldn't know they were addicted. But over 50 women in Ithaca share what some call a fever and others call an obsession. Friends call them fabricoholics behind their backs, and then, in a year or two, probably come down with the same affliction. Says one woman, not at all apologetically, "Oh, yes. It affects my wallet and my housework and consumes much of my free time. It is also my therapy, my connection to the past, my connection to the future and my connection to other women. I love it."

It is easy to spot one of these people. First off, they brake for quilt shows and fabric stores. Secondly, if you take a peek in their bedrooms, you will be astonished at the color and variety of pattern of the spreads on the beds which are invitingly warm and colorful. If they have had the addiction for any length of time, most of their relatives also have colorful beds, wallhangings and possibly a quilted garment or two. With any luck, you can marry into their family. If not, ask them for help; they are only too happy to share what they have learned.

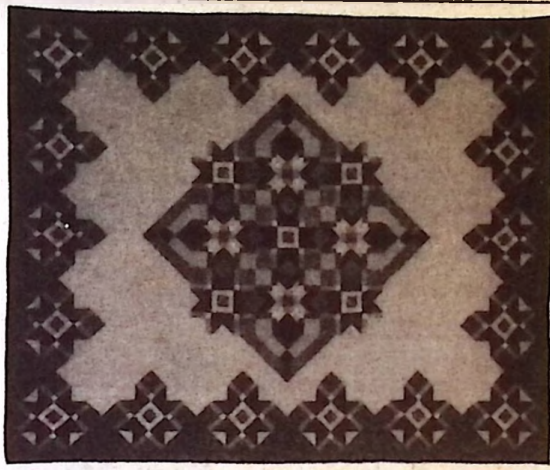
The support group for these affected women meets twice a month. And some of them haven't missed a meeting of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild in years. Once every two years — this weekend, in fact — the Guild holds a grand quilt show to parade the hours of patient piecing, bright colors, and multi variations on a theme which their craft has inspired.

"You want to know why I quilt?" asks Lorraine Sack, who has been quilting nearly 25 years and who can remember watching her mother quilt: "I love fabrics. I love colors and I love sitting at my sewing machine. My closet was full of clothes that I had made for myself. I had no other place to go."

Five years ago, Sack decided to pursue her obsession full time. She opened Quilts 'n Things on State Street. Since then, she has taken on four partners and now, with the skill and dedication of a small quilting bee, they operate Quilts 'n Things at 980 Dryden Rd. (Rte. 366) in Varna. The

The cure for Quilt Fever is a trip to the Quilts 1991 Show, Sat., Oct. 5 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sun., Oct. 6 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Ithaca High School. Shown here is the "Stars of the Finger Lakes" quilt, for which there will be a drawing on Sunday at 4 p.m.

PHOTO BY A. GALLS



shop is devoted to quilts: they sell yard after yard of colorful cotton fabric, patterns, books, tools, batting, and offer classes.

Judy Heath, a co-owner who has been a Guild member for 11 years, thinks the interest in quilting in Tompkins County has increased dramatically: "When I first started in the Guild, there were 10 or 11 people; now there are over 50."

Thanks to the Bicentennial

Heath traces the renewed interest in this truly American art form to several factors. First, in 1976, the Bicentennial rekindled interest in all kinds of American crafts and arts. Locally, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild was formed to put on the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt Show in 1976, the first national gathering of quilters and quilt enthusiasts in the United States, a show that featured more than 600 quilts.

Secondly, although many quilters prefer time-honored and time-consuming methods of construction, new techniques and tools developed in the mid- to late-1980s have made it possible to design, cut, and sew quilt pieces faster and more accurately than ever before. The rotary cut-

ter — a razor-sharp tool that looks like a pizza cutter — and a thick, tough acrylic ruler make it possible to accurately cut many layers of fabric at one time.

Lynne Anguish, a lab technician at Cornell, finds time to quilt in addition to working full-time and caring for two small children. "Quilting takes much less time than it used to," she says, crediting rotary cutter techniques. "You can be so much more intricate and accurate with the designs and the pieces."

Anguish took a quilting class from Eleanor Abbott at BOCES six or seven years ago and another class in beginning quilting given by Lorraine Sacks more recently. "Oil painting has always been my art form," she says. "Now quilting is my medium." Anguish, who has lived in Ithaca for 10 years, says that it wasn't until last year, when she joined the Quilters Guild, that she found her niche: "It's not just that I like quilting; I like all the people that I've met through the Guild."

Anguish says there is lots of room among quilters for the contemporary as well as the traditional. She has two quilts in the show; in the one, she took a traditional Lone Star and Log Cabin pattern and added Native American designs, col-

ors and themes.

Eleanor Abbott, will display the more traditional "Rose Tree" at this weekend's show. Abbott started quilting back in 1980 when her fourth child was in high school. "I'm glad I waited," she laughs, "because once I started quilting everything else went by the wayside — the job, the housework...everything."

Brigid Hubberman, who has been quilting since 1977, says she quilts for pleasure and because she finds it therapeutic. "You don't have to be under a quilt to feel warm. Quilts evoke an incredibly warm response. People are just drawn to them."

Women have stitched their lives into quilts for years. A woman's art born of necessity and scarcity — the need to keep warm with the few materials at hand — quilts were inspired by patterns of familiar symmetries — geese flying, pinwheels, log cabins, wheat sheaves, trees and floral motifs. As the women's movement has begun to appreciate the strength of its domestic roots, it has sparked a renaissance in fabric and thread. Quilting was and still is a social occasion for an extended family of women and community; when needles fly, tongues wag.

But beware, quilt fever is highly contagious. If you're looking for some good exposure or are already sorely afflicted, make Quilts 1991 at Ithaca High School one of your stops during Downtown Ithaca's Harvest Festival this weekend. Antique and contemporary quilts and quilted wearables will be on display. Raffle tickets for the "Stars of the Finger Lakes" quilt (the drawing is Sunday, at 4 p.m.) will be on sale. There will be ongoing demonstrations, and materials, tools, and books available from nine vendors. Guild members will also be collecting fabric scraps for quilts for AIDS babies to donate to the Lansing School for Girls.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at the Woman's Community Building. No experience necessary! For info call Brigid, 277-6065.

Grapevine
October 2, 1991

PATCHWORK PAINTINGS

BY JEANNE MACKIN

SOME PEOPLE ARE never satisfied. They take a perfectly good, traditional, old-fashioned concept like quilting and then insist on updating it. The results are astonishing.

You'd think something as old as quilting couldn't be improved. After all, the first quilts date back to 3400 BC — the British Museum has a small statue of a king from that time whose diamond-patterned robe was obviously quilted. (Quilting refers to the overall stitching together of layers of fabric, adding strength and additional texture and pattern.) Patchwork (the top layer of a quilt which has been pieced together from different fabrics) is as old as furs, when thrifty cave husbands patched together small scraps to make fetching loincloths. With something that old, what could be new?

Plenty. As with other art forms, art quilts put the emphasis on creativity. While many quilters, including myself, find bliss doing and redoing traditional patterns such as Lafayette's Peel, Trip Around the World and Grandmother's Fan (aren't the names grand?), art quilters take their needles and ideas into unexplored territory.

Suffice to say that art quilters, at least when they are behaving as art quilters, display a certain disregard for tradition. No patchwork appliques of tulips and cottages for them. Instead, lightning bolts of deep color are liable to strike across their quilts. Eye-catching patterns that call to mind British abstract artist Bridget Riley and American primitive artist Rev. Howard Finster inform their designs. Art quilters often tend to have rather wild hairdos and wear mismatched earrings or other hints of the rebel.

Take, for example, art quilter Meredith Small who, when not being *outré* at least in a fabric way, is professor of anthropology at Cornell. Her art quilts are products of a collaboration that go beyond the typical sewing circle scenario.

"A boyfriend suggested the design for my first art quilt — an



BLANKET STATEMENT: Dorothy Sholeen with her Family Ties quilt.

art deco design like stained glass," she says. She used satins and velvets — traditional enough — and lamé, not at all traditional, in the silver, gold, black and burgundy abstract wall hanging.

Another boyfriend helped design a second art quilt she's working, and this collaboration goes far beyond suggestion. They discussed the design and then she took him to the fabric store to help pick out the fabrics. "He spent a month with the scissors, getting the shapes right. I applied them onto the fabric," Small says. Now, they are working out the quilting design together.

"I have an art confidence

problem," Small admits. "I like working with an artist instead of trying to make the pattern myself."

Confidence doesn't seem to be a problem with fabric artist Dorothy Sholeen who, on the side, hangs wallpaper, paints, does volunteer work and is a mother.

"I don't do any traditional patterns," she says. I believe her. She recently exhibited a quilt made in rows of ties. Now, tie quilts are traditional in this craft. Since cravats have been around, women have been saving discarded ones, cutting them into strips and working them into quilts. Sholeen did it her way,

though. Instead of cutting the ties into little strips, she applied them whole. A tie is a tie.

I asked her if the whimsy in this piece was an intentional reference to earlier tie patterns. She paused. "I didn't know there were traditional tie patterns," she said. Quilts in progress include one made from her daughter's favorite dresses and another made from a collection of her t-shirts. Sholeen does follow one quilting tradition very strongly: she re-uses fabrics, so that memories are as integral to the quilt as design.

Alyce Anderson is part of a long tradition — using quilting techniques to make clothing. But the women of the 18th century in their demure, white quilted petticoats would be bemused by Anderson's colorful, bold jackets. Repetition and tradition are not keywords in Anderson's designs.

"I like things a little off key," Anderson admits. "I have an art background and am not real big on tradition."

Mary Lehman has made more than a few traditional quilts, but since finishing "Eye of the Storm" she sees many more art quilts in her future.

"It was my first abstract," she says of the complex white, teal and purple quilt, "and I want to do many more. This quilt made me reach beyond anything I had done before."

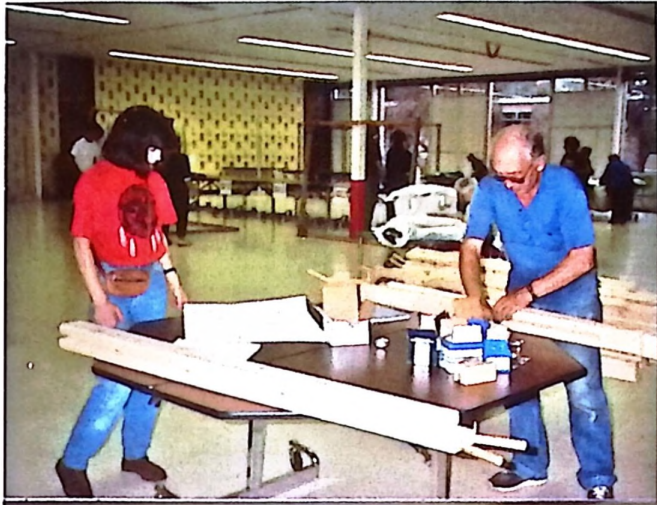
The quilt is a visual and emotional play on a storm, using over 40 different fabrics to express concrete terms in abstract form. It is painterly and exquisite and very evocative.

"The traditional patterns are beautiful and feel good to work" Lehman says. "And copies are good to do, especially for beginners. But the creativity of new designs makes you think in a different manner. It's not just repeating. It's all yours."

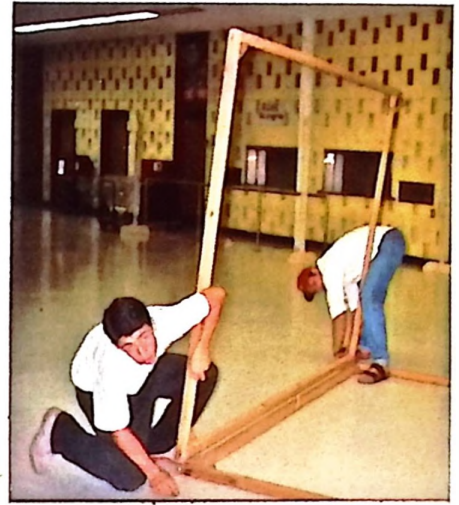
Are art quilters artists or craftspeople? The more relevant question is whether you can be one without the other. Without skill, novelty is worthless. Without originality, skill can get boring. Art quilters work in both worlds, making the old new and boldly going where quilters have not gone before. ■

photo/John Valentino

Ithaca Times
October 10, 1991



at
Show
Set
Up
Day



Quiet Time
Casey Carr + Russell



Block Contest
"Our Beautiful Earth"



Sue Merrill - Displaced Homemakers
Ruth Hin - Info - TCQG

Yikes Stripes

I've seen so many fascinating designs and said, "How was *that* pieced?" On closer inspection, I have discovered that the intricate design was achieved by the skillful use of striped fabric. "Someday . . . someday, I'll try that." My someday finally came when the Tompkins County Quilters Guild arranged a workshop called "Yikes, Stripes!" given by Veda Johnson.

Ten days before the workshop, Veda spent almost two hours at a guild meeting discussing stripes. There are even and uneven stripes, one-way stripes, and many other things to consider when choosing stripes for a quilt pattern.

We asked ourselves at the stores, "Does this fabric have enough repeats?" "Can I see to mark accurately on the back?" "Does the pattern fade away at a distance?"

Then came the frightening task of CUTTING that fabric! What did Veda say would happen if I cut on the stripe, or across the stripe, or centered on the stripe? Now how many combinations are there... 8 diamonds in 1 star, 64 blades in 8 fans ... should they all match, all be striped? Frustration and fear.

Finally THE DAY arrived and 11 of us with sewing machines, irons, and lots of questions descended on a small room. We discovered how to make a star lay flat in the middle, how to machine piece a curve, how to set in fans between the star points, how to set in the border, and how to deal with a long bias seam. We sewed. We ripped out seams. We sewed some more. When we left that afternoon all the stars were pieced and bordered, at least three fans were set in, and at least two border pieces were on. We felt pleased with our work, and exhausted.

Katie Cogswell

Exhibited are the results of this workshop and a subsequent workshop. Exhibitors are:

Nan Adams	Casey Carr	Katie Cogswell	Marian DeGloria	Virginia Fenton	Judi Heath
Denise Lentini	Alice Linton	Virginia Schuel	Cynthia Slothower	Enid Zollweg	



Cindy Slothower

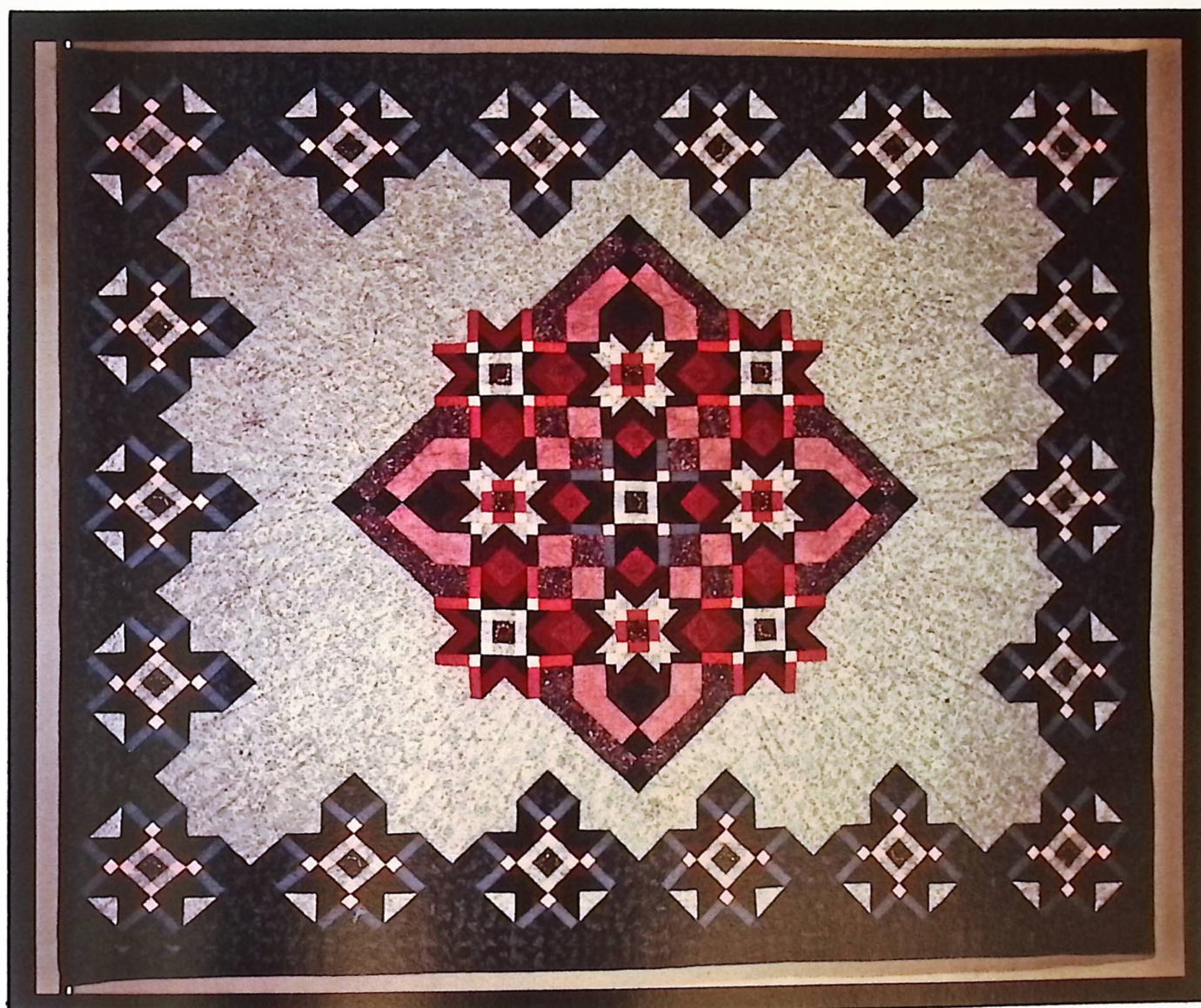


Denise Lentini



Quilting on raffle quilt
March 1991
Nan Adams, Margie Bracewell,
Jeannie Pluck

1991 Raffle - Stars of the Finger Lakes



Designed by
Nan Adams



14618
 No 2393
 Name Richard Schonfeld
 Address 168 Eastland
Rochester NY
 Phone 716-244-1984

← Winner

Oct. 28, 1991

Dear Barbara-

The quilt arrived in great condition + truly is a beautiful addition to our home. As I mentioned, this has inspired our 11 yr. old daughter to begin making her own quilt - she is off to a great start.

We heard about the show when we drove by the High School + saw the sign! I also believe we saw something at the festival downtown.

Thanks again to you and the other members of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. Hopefully we will be back next year.

Sincerely,
 Dick Schonfeld



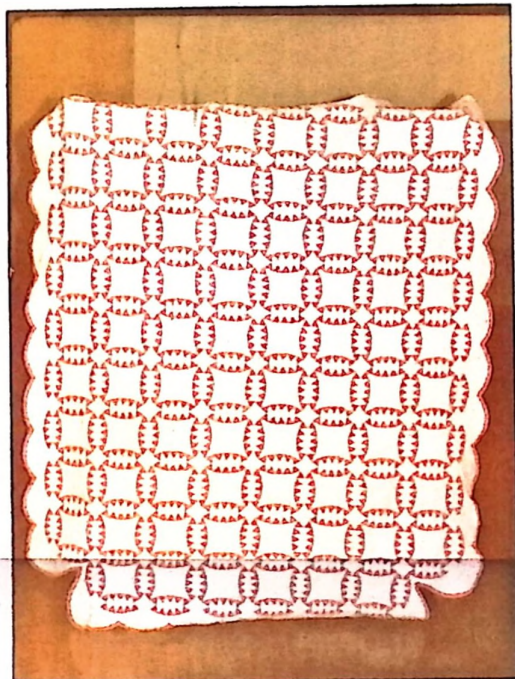
Presented with love to

BARBARA DIMOCK

by her friends in
 Tompkins County Quilters Guild
 in grateful appreciation for her
 leadership in presenting

QUILTS 1991
 Celebrating Fifteen Years
 of Warmth and Beauty

Viewers' Choice Awards - 1991



Pre-1940 - Pickle Dish
Cindy Linton - Trumansburg

THE AWARDS

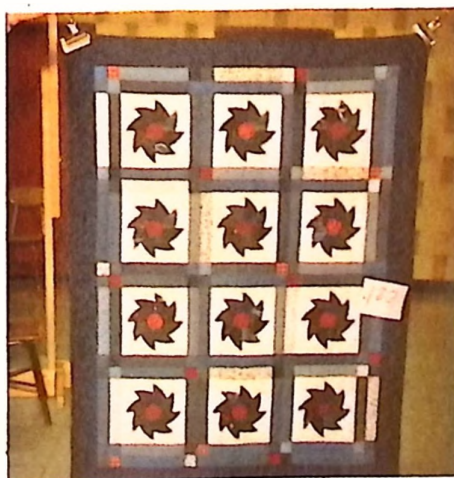


Post-1940 - Rose Tree
Eleanor Abbott - Brooktondale



Miniature - Flowers ↑
Both were made by
Georgette Sinkler
Ithaca

Crib size - Buzz Saw →





Model- Alyce Anderson



← CLOTHING- Jacket
Judi Heath - Ithaca

WALL HANGING- Christmas
↓ 'Round the Village Square
Mary Anne Treble - Interlaken



Quilts 1991:15 Years of Warmth and Beauty

By J. Sheldon

Last weekend, October 5 and 6, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild put on a super exhibit. "Quilts" is a biennial event that draws quilters and craft aficionados from far and near.

The show was well organized, with items classed according to category, and notes attached to the name cards on the quilts and in the program to help visitors understand something of what went into the pieces they were looking at. For example the notes to "Thousand Triangles," exhibited by Mary Benson of Lansing, read "The top was bought at a rummage sale in 1950. The ladies from the Lansing United Methodist church quilted it." Some of the pre-1940 quilts dated from the nineteenth century. One of the oldest and quaintest was "Cousin Lizzie's Quilt" (1870), exhibited by Ruth Ann Davis. The notes read "This signature quilt was found in the Davis family's attic in Bridgeport, Connecticut in the 1950s. One signature is cousin Lizzie's and it has always been referred to as cousin Lizzie's quilt, though she was not the bride for whom it was made."

Some of the quilts were made with the assistance of children, and it was quite heartwarming to think of kids and their parents or teachers collaborating on such a gentle project. Quilting must develop powers of concentration, and the ability to enjoy the process of making something, as much as the end result. One

of the easiest ways a child can contribute creatively to a quilt is by drawing designs on individual blocks of cloth. These designs are then emphasized with quilting stitches in the final product.

School was the catalyst for several of the items on exhibit. One of the quilts was made for a high-school teacher by her students—what a tremendous way of showing appreciation! In another case, children in a first-grade class had depicted their own family's traditions on the blocks used to make a wall hanging.

This was a sizeable quilt show, which was one of the reasons for moving it from the Women's Community Building to Ithaca High School. There were 160 recent and 70 antique, full-size quilts exhibited. Other categories were crib quilts, wall hangings, clothing and miniatures. The clothing consisted of jackets for the most part, with one vest and one coat. Such garments can be made to be extremely warm, because air is trapped in the spaces between the layers — one of the best ways of retaining heat. Wool and silk can be used to good effect as well as cotton.

Some of the loveliest objects on exhibit were stuffed patchwork toys, obviously long-loved by the children for whom they were made.

In addition to quilted items there were vendors, some with books, others with sewing equipment, fabric, kits and patterns for making quilts, wall-hangings and jackets. There were demonstrations of quilting processes all day long, to help the uninitiated overcome any fear of starting.

As well as providing for the exhibition of local talent, the event created opportunities for quilters to meet and discuss their respective methods and particular interests. All in all, a very good show.

1992

KIDS TO KIDS HEARTS AND HANDS

KIDS OF ALL AGES (YOUNG AND OLD) CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. LET'S SEE HOW MANY KIDS WE CAN COVER. THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A QUILT AND MANY WAYS YOU CAN HELP.

- WITH A CLASS OR GROUP
- WITH A FAMILY
- WITH A CLUB
- WITH FRIENDS

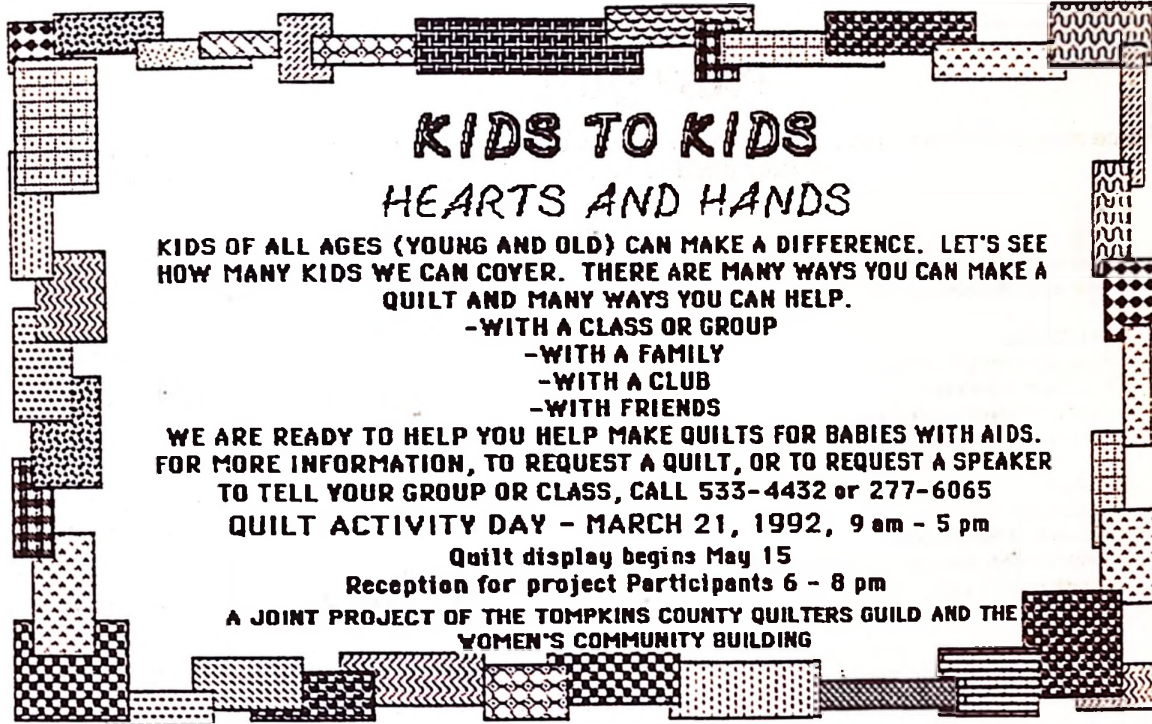
WE ARE READY TO HELP YOU HELP MAKE QUILTS FOR BABIES WITH AIDS. FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO REQUEST A QUILT, OR TO REQUEST A SPEAKER TO TELL YOUR GROUP OR CLASS, CALL 533-4432 or 277-6065

QUILT ACTIVITY DAY - MARCH 21, 1992, 9 am - 5 pm

Quilt display begins May 15

Reception for project Participants 6 - 8 pm

A JOINT PROJECT OF THE TOMPKINS COUNTY QUILTERS GUILD AND THE WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BUILDING



Sew Much, Sew Little

27-5/19/92

Groups of kids and adults from the greater Ithaca area have been sewing quilts to comfort HIV-positive infants, many of whom spend their short lives in institutional care.

Now those groups and everyone else are invited to a "Sew-In," where you can start or finish quilts with some extra helping hands.

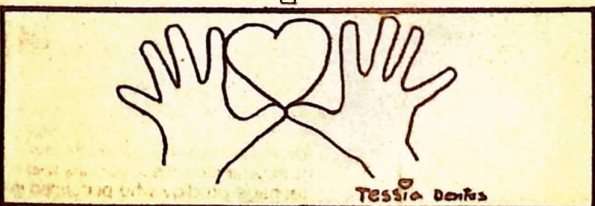
The Tompkins County Quilters Guild, AIDSwork of Tompkins County and the Women's Community Building are sponsoring this event, to create crib-sized quilts for the AIDS Baby Crib, or ABC project. The Sew-In is on **Sat., Mar. 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.** in the Women's Community Building.

Admission is free, and a crew of enthusiastic volunteers will be on hand to help use the 8 sewing machines, 4 tying frames, 4 ironing boards, rotary cutters and other supplies. A colorful array of fabric, thread and batting will be available — and busy fingers can put these to good use, so additional donations are welcome.

AIDSwork is also setting up a separate reading area of AIDS information.

Finished quilts will be displayed at the Women's Community Building in mid-May before distribution to sick infants across the nation.

For more information, or to donate supplies or funds, call 533-4432 or 277-6065.



HANDS & HEARTS: Logo for the "Sew In" where folks join to make quilts for the AIDS Baby Quilt Project.

ITHACA QUILTER'S GUILD — shows how to make quilts for babies & children with AIDS, at Center Ithaca, April 26 noon-3 p.m.: info. 273-5275.

The Kids To Kids/ABC Quilt Project, sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building, will display more than 100 quilts made by local volunteers. The quilts can be viewed at the Women's Community Building, 100 West Seneca Street, on Friday, May 15, 1992 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., with an opening reception from 6-8 p.m., and Saturday, May 16th from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. For more information call 607-272-1247....2p

AIDS baby quilts are on display

27-5/11/92

A collection of AIDS baby quilts made by local youngsters will be on display Friday at the Women's Community Building. The show is the culmination of the Kids to Kids Project, which organized more than 300 children to produce quilts for babies with AIDS throughout the state.

About 40 quilts were made at a "sew-in" March 21, and others were made in local classrooms and by groups and individuals through-

out the region.

Project volunteers will be recognized at a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Women's Community Building.

Classrooms are welcome to visit the exhibit during a sneak preview from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. The show will remain on display from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday before the quilts are sent to recipients.

Additional quilts can be dropped off at the building this week during business hours. For more information about the project, call Betty MacKenzie at 533-4432 or Brigid Hubberman at 277-6065.



Cora Yao holds quilt made in 1992 as part of a statewide project to encourage kids to make quilts for AIDS babies.



ABC QUILTS AIDS Baby Crib Quilts

Bring some comfort and sunshine to the thousands of AIDS-infected babies born in this country each year.

We need VOLUNTEERS
with **TIME. . . . LOVE. . . . MONEY.**

- 1. Quiltmakers who love to sew.
- 2. Organizers for sewing groups in your area.
- 3. "Networkers" to spread the word across the country.
- 4. Donations
 - Baby fabrics or prints, batting, thread
 - Money for materials, delivery costs and office supplies

Details On Back

Our Goal — a colorful, cozy quilt for each and every little child with AIDS as a gift of compassion and unconditional love from the heart of America.

Will you help us send this gift of love to each of these special little children?

Volunteering

Quilts for AIDS Babies

SUE BRYSON

When the third person within 10 minutes of my arrival asked me if I knew how to use a rotary cutter I got a little snappy. "No, I don't, is it that hard to learn?" is what I said.

What I thought was, "Maybe I don't know enough to help make a quilt after all."

I had come to the Women's Community Building on a wintry spring day to offer my dated sewing skills and the enthusiasm of my four-year-old daughter to help make quilts for the AIDS Baby Crib (A.B.C.) quilt project. This national project, now a few years old, networks with quilters to produce quilts for babies in hospitals who were born HIV-positive.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building have created a joint project called Kids-to-Kids, coordinating groups of children in schools and clubs to enable them to make quilts for the A.B.C. project. It's a way of educating children about AIDS as well as giving them the good feeling that they can also help in some way. The Kids-to-Kids project, along with the Tompkins County AIDS Task Force held a "Sew-In" in March and put out a call for volunteers.

I soon discovered that a rotary cutter, a relative of the pizza cutter, asked only for a little respect for its sharpness and swiftness. I was very careful as I rolled it over the fabric I'd chosen and cut out 25 6-inch squares for my first quilt ever. Kathleen Ryan, one of the helpers at the cutting table, cut out the border material for the soon-to-be yard-square quilt. She patiently explained how to

arrange my pieces of fabric to keep track of which went where. Then I took them to the sewing machine and started stitching them together.

Ryan was one of many volunteers who came to help with the event. I was also encouraged by Karey Solomon who, along with Brigid Hubberman, Betty MacKenzie and Alanna Fontanella, helped organize the Kids-to-Kids project.

My quilt took shape over the course of the next three hours and I was encouraged by all the people in the room who were helping or sewing themselves. We novices were both inspired and intimidated by the display of quilts hanging along one wall.

When I first arrived, Alanna Fontanella told me that I could select a design from one hanging up on the wall, or make my own. She graciously pointed out the simplest when I mentioned that I'd never made a quilt before. She then directed me to four long tables filled with fabric remnants, a dazzling variety of prints sorted by color: red/pinks, browns, blue/greens, and one table of solids.

Luckily, my creativity was not over-challenged. One of the women attending the fabric tables pushed a pile of three different pieces of cloth my way, saying gently, "These might be nice together." She had combined a beautiful solid teal with a cute repeating print of colorful dinosaurs on white, and a tiny red-orange-yellow flower print.

I asserted my own fledgling design sense and picked out a solid bright red fabric instead of the flower print and experimented on paper with a simple block design. I decided to alternate five

squares by five squares of the teal and dinosaurs and link them all with a border of red.

While I arranged, planned, stitched and pressed my quilt, my daughter kept busy sewing small square fabric scraps together to make a soft book — her own idea. Later, she colored quilt squares with other children. The organizers pressed transfer paper on the back of the squares to keep them from slipping when the children colored designs on them with crayons. The finished squares were incorporated into a quilt with bright pieces of fabric to produce a nice homemade look for a child that has a child's touch.

All around the room there was a whirl of activity. There were six sewing machines around the perimeter on long tables with small ironing boards. In one corner, Betty MacKenzie cheerfully helped people make a sandwich of their quilt top, cotton batting, and backing material, and pin it all together. At other tables, and at a few quilt frames, people were basting the quilt to keep it all together and tying it off. Machine quilting was going on in yet another corner.

Many times while pinning my quilt top together I thought of it comforting the baby who might be underneath it some day. I hope that the children involved in the project thought about that too.

A.B.C. will be displaying quilts sewn locally on Sunday, April 26 from noon-3 p.m. at Center Ithaca. There will also be quilting demonstrations. Quilts will also be on display at the Women's Community Building on May 13, before being shipped off to A.B.C. National.

Grapevine
April 22, 1992

Creative Energy of Crazy Quilts is the Subject of Talk at the Quilter's Guild

By Wendy Skinner

Beth Mulholland has been interested in quilts since she was ten years old, when she watched and helped her mother and grandmother make family quilts. A retired geographer, she now makes quilting and the history of quilting a serious study.

Her particular interest for many years has been crazy quilts. She shared much of her enthusiasm for this significant aspect of women's culture at a program presented by the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild on Sunday, September 20, at the Women's Community Building in Ithaca.

Seldom can the birth of a folk art be dated as precisely as that of the crazy quilt. The year was 1876, when the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia hosted the Japanese Pavilion.

Japanese art had burst on the scene in Europe a few years earlier. The asymmetry, shallow perspective, unusual color combinations, and delicate patterns of Japanese design thrilled the Victorian world. European artists, hungry for this new look, haunted antique and curio shops looking for the discarded Japanese prints that were used as wrapping paper for ceramic ware.

At the Japanese Pavilion, an estimated 9.5 million Americans filed past a screen showing a Japanese priest walking on a sidewalk of irregularly-shaped stones. This pattern, known as "cracked ice," and reminiscent of a crazed pottery glaze, caught the eye of quilters.

A new availability of manufactured silks, satins, and velvets provided a larger class of women with fine dress fabrics, and it was the scraps from these fancy dresses that were collected and made into crazy quilts. The fabrics tended to be dark and rich, calling for embroidered accents in brighter colors. Gold was particularly favored as an edging and embroidery color.

Mulholland set the scene for a display of crazy quilts by showing slides of Victorian interiors. The typical domain of the upper-class Victorian woman was dominated by clutter, ornament, and a scheme of decor in which every item was unique. Houses, gardens, clothing were opulent.

The lowly quilt had no place in this prosperous environment, until the new "crazed" pattern, fancy embroidery, and luxurious fabrics brought it into the best Victorian living rooms. Mulholland reported having heard that a crazy quilt might be kept in the living room to be a throw for the Victorian husband who wished to catch forty winks, "but I just can't imagine it," she protested. "Who would dare to use one of these beautiful quilts to sleep under!"

It is more likely, and better documented, that the rich, glowing quilts took places of honor as drapes for pianos, as mantle pieces, or simply as display items.

Quilting has served women as a means of expression since Colonial times. Although the patterns were quite specific and repeatable, latitude for personalization always existed. Names, dates,

Bible verses, personal symbols and representations of places, people, or events could be incorporated into the traditional patterns. The fabric scraps themselves had much personal significance and history.

With the advent of the crazy quilt, however, the traditional patterns were altered and then supplanted by complete creativity. Like the new freedoms being enjoyed by Victorian women, crazy quilts represented an exuberant break with tradition.

Irregular shapes in a profusion of color and textures were fitted together in unique patterns. Not every quilter abandoned repetition or symmetry, but a truly "crazy" crazy quilt is a swirl of movement and color that presages (or influenced?) cubism, and later, abstract expressionism.

Crazy quilts were lively and personal. No longer did messages or mementos have to be worked into a traditional pattern; the entire quilt could be a personal expression. Some crazy quilts have been noted to span decades in fabric age, as women saved the best and most personally significant scraps for a very special quilt. Unlimited varieties of flowers, birds, stars, Japanese fans, horseshoes, butterflies, wheat, recognizable and fantastic motifs, Bible verses, and emblems were incorporated into the mosaic of shapes, fitted together like a stained glass window.

Women's magazines were a conduit of information about the latest styles and trends in needlework, which was practiced almost universally by American women. The magazines also offered mail-order sources to meet the great demand for fabric scraps, ribbon, applique patterns, fabric paint, and other materials used in crazy quilts.

Another source for quilting materials was the general store that every town had. Mulholland showed a slide of the interior of such a store, saying "I'm old enough to remember a store like this in Buffalo. It was a magic place, with a myriad of fabrics, splendid ribbons, gorgeous buttons —"

Mulholland and several members of the audience had crazy quilts to show to the group. All were beautiful. As woman after woman stood to explain the history of a particular quilt that had come into her possession, it became obvious that these artifacts contain a wealth of archaeology.

From the precious jumble of Victorian decor to the uncannily modern-looking quilts inspired by an opening up to another culture, crazy quilts epitomize an unparalleled expression of women's creative energy.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild is a non-profit educational group that encourages interest in quilting and the study of quilts as a historic art form. The Guild meets twice a month and also sponsors special lectures and workshops. Visitors are welcome. Call 273-5824 or 273-8265 for more information.

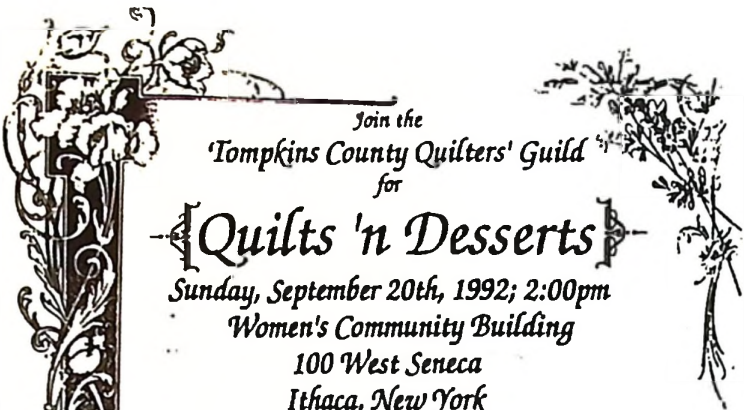


SUNDAY, SEPT. 20
QUILTS N' DESSERTS — at the Women's Community Building, 100 W Seneca St., 2 p.m. "Crazy Quilts: A Reflection of Their Times," speaker Beth Mulholland, free and open refreshments, bring crazy quilts to share

← Baby Quilt - 1992
 for Chelsea
 Lori Coon

Quilt Blocks Ar
 retiring President Donna Hall - 10/92





Join the
Tompkins County Quilters' Guild
for

Quilts 'n Desserts

Sunday, September 20th, 1992; 2:00pm
Women's Community Building
100 West Seneca
Ithaca, New York

featuring

Beth Mulholland

Quilter, Quilt historian and Collector

speaking on

"Crazy Quilts: A Reflection of their Times"

free and open to the public
refreshments served
come and bring a crazy quilt to share



CERTIFICATE of APPRECIATION



is awarded to

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild
for participation in
Cayuga Nature Center's
10th ANNUAL FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL
September 19, 1992

Julie Worth
Festival Coordinator

IJ-11/1/92

The DeWitt Mall's birthday party

Here's the schedule for DeWitt Mall's 21st birthday celebration:

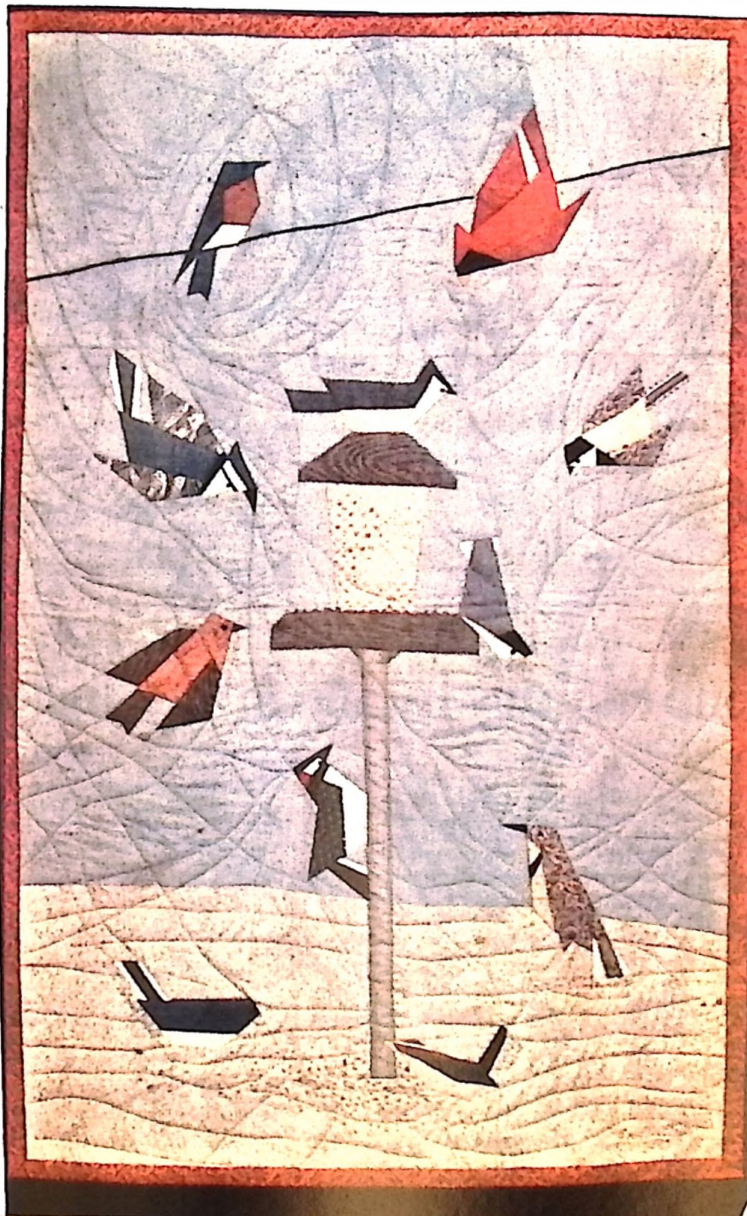
Thursday — 12:30 p.m.: Ribbon-cutting ceremony. 6-7 p.m.: Music in the halls.

Friday — 6-7 p.m.: Music in the halls.

Saturday — 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.: Historic Ithaca benefit lunch, Cafe DeWitt; 12:30 p.m.: Rededication of the building; birthday cake, featuring a drawing of DeWitt Mall; 1 p.m.: Book signing by local historian and author Carol Sisler, who will lead a walking tour of the DeWitt Park Historic District.

Sunday — 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.: DeWitt Historical Society benefit brunch, Cafe Dewitt. Noon to 2 p.m.: Hank Roberts, performing original and traditional cello music.

"Quilt Showcase," sponsored by Tompkins County Quilters Guild and Quills 'N Things, will be on exhibit all four days.



BIRDS AT MY FEEDER: Machine-placed quilt with beading and metallic thread by Mary Anne Treble depicts local birds that may be spotted during the New Year's Day bird count, see page 7

DEATH NOTICES

NINA CRANDALL LINTON

Nina Crandall Linton, 82, a longtime Enfield resident and native of Cincinnati, died on Friday, October 16, 1992, at Tompkins Community Hospital.

An informal community memorial service is being planned for late November at the Enfield Grange Hall.

IN MEMORIAM

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL SERVICE NINA CRANDALL LINTON Aug. 8, 1910-Oct. 16, 1992

A community Memorial Service will be held for Nina Crandall Linton on Sunday, November 29, 1992 at the Enfield Grange Hall, starting at 2p.m. with a gathering upstairs, followed by a dish to pass buffet downstairs. Photographs as well as her family quilts will be shown; people are encouraged, if they like, to bring some object, photo, thought, etc. which connected them to her—a photo board and display area will be available. Together we will create a "momentary museum" reflecting her life. No flowers, please; donations in her memory may be made to the Enfield School Library or to the Nina C. Linton Beginning Quilter Award, to be administered by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild at their biennial Quilt Shows. For information about the dish to pass buffet, please contact Helen Smith at 273-1689.

CARD OF THANKS

IJ-12/3/92

THE FAMILY OF NINA CRANDALL LINTON wishes to thank the 126 people who joined us in creating the "momentary museum" reflecting her life on November 29 at the Enfield Grange Hall. Cindy Linton and Linda Linton VanNederyn are especially recognized for their contribution to the layout and design of the quilting retrospective, with assistance from Rhoda Linton, Julie Smith and Peggy Billings. Special thanks are due to Helen Smith, Fran, Cathy, Denny and Carol Newhart, Etta Gray, the Enfield Senior Citizens and the many people who provided a varied and delicious dish-to-pass

meal after the service. Thanks also go to Roger Hubbell for making it so easy to use the Grange Hall and Jack Hubbell for the use of the display equipment and photography. We are also grateful to the Tompkins County Quilters Guild for use of the quilt frames. Nina would have greatly enjoyed the entire event!

FAREWELL TO NINA

NINA LINTON, a founding member of our guild, passed away in October and all who enjoyed her friendship are diminished by the loss. Nina loved quilting and quilters. She has been a source of inspiration to members of our guild and we are all grateful for her part in forming the guild and keeping it on track through these early years.

The Guild is placing a copy of "New York Beauty" in the Ithaca Library in her memory. The January issue of this Newsletter will present a history of the origins of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild now being prepared by several long-time members.

Remembering my Grandmother, Nina Crandall Linton

Linda VanNederynen, one of the owners of Quilters Corner, shares her quilt heritage with us in the following remembrance of her grandmother, Nina Crandall Linton. Nina was a founding member of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and instrumental in organizing the 1976 Bicentennial Show. This show is credited with adding to a nationwide resurgence of interest in quilting.

Most of us have someone in our lives who brought us to quilting. For me it was my grandmother, Nina Crandall Linton. I don't recall the exact moment I was introduced to quilting, because I don't remember it ever not being in my life.

During my childhood, there were quilts on the beds at Grandma's house, but no quilting going on. Grandma was busy knitting, sewing on buttons, helping Grandpa with the dairy farm, and teaching first grade.

As a family, we were all involved with 4-H. My mother, Myrtle Linton, first taught me to sew. I stitched a lot of my clothes and entered a few garments in the 4-H clothing review. From my mother and grandmother I learned the basics of sewing, as well as other needle work.

It wasn't until my early teens that I remember my first "lessons" in quilting. By then my grandparents had sold the farm, moved to a smaller home, and my grandmother had retired from teaching. Earlier in her life she had quilted some and collected many scraps for when she would have more time. I was often drawn to her side, watching her mark, cut, and piece each shape into a beautiful pattern that was basted, then quilted. She also had quilts and quilt tops from her mother-in-law, from whom she acquired her knowledge and love of quilting. She always had several projects in the works. (Surprise! Surprise!) Although I didn't know it, it was during this time that I was hooked.

Grandma often spoke of the women she met with a couple of times a month to show off the latest pattern or technique. Then came the 1976 quilt show. As I helped receive and disburse quilts for hanging, I knew I wanted to make at least half of what came through the door. After the show I paid much closer attention to my grandmother's piecing and quilting, and eventually began the process myself. I was always anxious to see what Grandma would bring home from guild. One day she gave me a piece of batting, a piece of muslin and one of my grandfathers old handkerchiefs. I basted them together, then began quilting around all the paisleys. It looked miserable. I asked if I should take it out and start again. The answer was no. I needed to leave the stitches in so I could see how much I had improved when I finished.

I wasn't the first person she had taught to quilt. She told me of the man who was a wonderful designer/piecer, but didn't really quilt, until he met my grandmother. The man was Michael James, and she taught him a perfect running stitch. He and I both benefited from my grandmother's lessons.

Over the next several years I tried my hand at a few small projects. I also continued to learn from my grandmother as she became more involved in the group that is today known as the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. She went on to judge many shows in New York State, including the State Fair for many years. She began a local fund raiser with her senior citizens group, which to this day makes an annual quilt to raffle.

I had the grand fortune of being involved with and learning from her and those around her as they cut, pieced, basted and quilted many quilts. Through her endeavors, my grandmother helped bring quilting to the recognized and respected place it holds today.

A Bit of History of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild

by Barbara Dimock

When Eleanor first asked me to write a history of the Quilters Guild for the newsletter, I thought, "piece of cake". I would just say how it started, who the founding members were, and list some of the Guild's accomplishments. As I started looking through my old notes, newsletters, and scrapbooks, I found that it was a lot more involved than that. The Guild has come a long way and accomplished many things in the 18 years of its existence. Perhaps the next step should be a project to write a comprehensive history of the Guild from the beginning.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild began as the result of a quilt exhibit sponsored by the City Federation of Women's Organizations in August 1974. The idea came from founding member and first president, Jeanne Greene. She was very interested in quilting at the time and found that there were no local groups and no state or national organizations for quilters. As a member of the Federation Board, Jeanne suggested holding an exhibit at the Women's Community Building to see if there was local interest in some kind of quilting group. About 80 quilts were displayed at the two-day show, along with a demonstration of quilting, a display of quilting books, a slide show, and a sign up sheet for interested quilters (or would-be quilters, like myself). Nina Linton was at the quilting frame that day enthusiastically demonstrating the art of quilting. The response to the show was very positive (more than 500 people saw the quilts) and interest was great.

Through the fall, quilters met and discussed what type of organization they wanted and how to achieve their goals. On November 12, 1974, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild was officially formed with 20 founding members: Joan Aldrich, Madeline Arnold, Eleanor Beattie, Margaret Bruckart, Viola Crispell, Barbara Dimock, Madeline Dunsmore, Phebe Erdman, Mary Flinn, Jeanne Greene, Carrie Hare, Linda Harrington, Helen Kramer, Joan Lawrence, Nina Linton, Betty MacKenzie, Ethelyn Maxwell, Mildred Miller, Ann Mott, and Edna Wheeler. Officers were Jeanne Greene, President; Mary Flinn, Vice-President; Madeline Dunsmore, Secretary; and Joan Aldrich, Treasurer. It was decided to have both afternoon and evening meetings which alternated weeks. Members could attend either or both meetings. Each session had a chairperson who coordinated the meeting. Afternoon chairpeople were Nina Linton and Linda Harrington, evening chairperson was Carrie Hare. Business meetings with full membership were held quarterly. There were no summer meetings.

The purposes of the Guild were "to promote, encourage, stimulate, and support quilters and quilting in Tompkins County and to provide education and fellowship for the members". To this end, show and tell was encouraged from the beginning, help for problems that members or guests might have was always available, and quilts were basted for members.

The first Guild project was a Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt which was raffled at a public quilting bee held in the Spring of 1975. Other activities that first year included a bus trip to the Shelbourne Museum in Vermont to see their quilt collection, participation in Cornell Plantation's "Fall-In", and the establishment of a quilt pattern collection and a block collection. By that time, plans were already underway for a BIG week-long quilting extravaganza, The Bicentennial Finger Lakes Quilt Exhibit, to be held in August 1976 (cosponsored by the City Federation).

Most of the next year and a half were dedicated to planning, organizing, and hosting that show. The Guild began by making a Founding Members Quilt and then designed and made the Tompkins County Bicentennial Quilt (which now is part of the Dewitt Historical Society's collection). The show was the largest to date in the nation.

600 quilts from 14 Finger Lakes counties were displayed. (I cannot begin to explain all that went on at the show.) There was a section at the WCB for contemporary quilts that were judged and awarded prizes. The main section of the show was held at the Ithaca High School with quilts on display in the gym and cafeteria. A special area was set aside for display of Bicentennial quilts (one from each county). In classrooms were vendors and in the auditorium was a continuous slide show. The activities room was the demonstration area with a quilting bee, displays, and exhibits set up by the participating counties. The

centerpiece of the exhibit was the Finger Lakes Bicentennial Quilt, a joint design by all the counties. At the same time, at the Holiday Inn, nationally known quilters gave workshops or lectures (Jean Ray Laury, Beth and Jeffrey Gutcheon, Myron and Patsy Orlofsky, and Jonathan Holstein). The show was a complete success with visitors coming from all over the country, including Bonnie Leman, Mary Conroy from Canada, and a then little known male quilter, Michael James, to name a few.

After this exhausting and often overwhelming undertaking, it was time for some introspection. Quilters wanted time to do their own thing. Meeting attendance dropped and was very sporadic. Afternoon and evening meetings were changed to the same day, every other week (so that we could leave a frame set up all day) and outside commitments were decreased. After a year, afternoon meetings were stopped completely because of low attendance and meetings were scheduled for every other Tuesday evening. The Guild did continue to participate in Cornell Plantation's "Fall-In", but that was the only community activity. Several commissioned projects were completed, quilting a Sunbonnet Sue quilt and making an Album quilt top. The Guild made contact with an Amish woman in Western New York who did quilting for us and several excursions were made to visit her. In 1977, it was decided to have meetings continue through the summer with one meeting each month for July and August. Allotting money to buy books and magazine subscriptions for a Guild library and buying muslin by the bolt for Guild members to purchase began in 1977-78. Fall programs for 1977 included two workshops by Linda Halpin.

The pace of the Guild picked up in 1979 with Lisa Turner at the helm and has never slowed down since. With spring fever and quilt fever, the Spring of 1979 brought with it the idea of making a quilt that would be raffled only among paid Guild members. Thus, the Tulip Quilt was born. As a means to increase attendance at meetings, a "chance" on the quilt was given each time a member attended a meeting and worked on the quilt. Sally Kern was the lucky winner. The Guild also participated in the Ithaca Festival (and has every year since) and had its second public raffle, this time raffling a Nine-Patch quilt at the Festival. The Guild also helped put on an exhibit at the Hinckley Museum entitled, "Textilework".

Since those early days, the Guild has continued to participate in community activities to educate the public, to promote quilting and to support area textile and quilt makers. It has established the service quilt project, an on-going activity to make quilts to be donated as fund-raisers for local organizations. Several Round Robin quilt projects have occurred, along with several "Guild only" quilt raffles. Starting in 1981, there has been a biennial quilt show, funded in part by a quilt raffled at the show. Member support has continued through expanding the library and having lectures and workshops teaching new techniques as well as the basics. Traditions have been established: the baby quilt project to welcome Guild babies, the President's quilt to honor outgoing presidents, and the "Gold-like" pin for finished projects (begun in 1987 by President Betty Granholm).

Mini-demonstrations and workshops by Guild members have also evolved. Members have also done special projects going into schools, homes, museums, and meetings of other local organizations and talking about quilts or teaching quilting projects. The AIDS Baby Quilt project culminated with a community workday for making AIDS baby quilts. An exhibit at the Hinckley Museum called "Do Better Scissors Make Better Quilts?" was curated by several members. In 1983 "Morning Quilting" started on alternate weeks from regular Guild meetings. That group has now evolved into several small quilt groups that meet monthly at members' homes.

The membership has grown from a low of about 14 members to the current high of over 50. There have been members from other countries, Canada, Switzerland, England, Germany, Japan (have I missed any?) as well as other states. In 1986 the Quilters Guild incorporated as a not-for-profit organization. Guild members have a long list of accomplishments and have played an important role in the resurgence of quilting. As Bonnie Leman said at one point, the Bicentennial Quilt Exhibit was one of the principal events that started the big quilting revival which continues today.

Quilts are warm entertainment at Schweinfurth

By KAREY SOLOMON
Local Staff

CAN they really do that with fabric? The Quilts=Art=Quilts show at the Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center in Auburn is an annual exhibition that always offers visitors agreeable surprises.

This year at least 12 quilters from the greater Ithaca area are represented, including Nancy Ann Sobel of Brooktondale, who won the Judge's Choice Award for excellent workmanship and use of color and Sharon Stroud of Groton, who won an Honorable Mention.

The profusion of color and styles is a visual feast verging on overload. Judy Heath, one of the judges for this year's event, who returned recently as a spectator, offers a synopsis. "This year there's more black and darker fabrics, and fewer truly traditional designs. Traditional patterns have been modified. There are far fewer large quilts, more wall hangings and smaller pieces."

She adds that deciding on the awards was easy because "They're pretty outstanding." But since the judges worked without knowing the identities of the quilters, it wasn't until recently that she could connect the quilts with the names.

Sobel kept a journal of her work, documenting the years that went into "Morning at Christmas Gazebo." Preliminary work on the quilt began in December, 1990, gathered steam that January with "Now that Christmas and New Year's are past, it's time to play with my quilt ideas and designs. I worked at some designing for the quilt center applique and gingerbread — no success yet." On July 31, 1991, she wrote "Hooray — top is finished!"

Clearly, thousands of hours of patient stitching built this labor of love. Sixteen flower-appliqued rays burst from a flowered center; Victorian-inspired curlicues of dark and light fabric on the rays and at the margins of the quilt add contrast. The stitches used in the applique are virtually invisible; the quilting stitches that add texture to the whole are tiny, regular and

What wins awards — one judge's view

Choosing quilts for inclusion in a show can be a challenge involving large numbers of people — and surprisingly long hours. Judy Heath, an Ithaca and part-owner of Quilts 'N' Things in Varna, was one of six quilt judges who worked on the Schweinfurth show.

Heath's panel of three worked 10 hours, along with a corps of "quilt handlers" and a scribe. The handlers prepare each quilt, assigning numbers and masking the maker's identity. They carry quilts in one at a time, hold them up so the panel may get a general impression of the work at a distance, then bring them in for a closer view.

"You have no idea whose quilt you're judging," Heath says, adding that judges disqualify themselves if they recognize particular works.

"The first thing you do is look at it for the design and impact (overall effect) also the use of fabric, embellishment, then the creativity or originality." On closer inspection, the judges check for workmanship: whether the piecing and applique are smoothly done, whether fabrics are visible through the backing, whether it's as straight and square as it's supposed to be. Are the stitches even? Is the quilt pattern appropriate to the design? The finishing touches are closely inspected for neatness. Marks from pens or pencils must be removed. Quilts with these marks are sometimes accepted, Heath says, but these never receive an award.

After the judges confer on each quilt, one will articulate the group's critique for the scribe.

"I've been going to the show for years," Heath says. "I really feel the overall quality of workmanship has increased. People are willing to attempt things that are more than the block patterns of the early days."

— Karey Solomon

precisely placed. But apart from the workmanship, there's also wit in the form of small embroidered insects: flies, spiders, inchworms and even a ladybug are seen on closer examination.

Embellishment is taken to its outer aesthetic limits with a quilt by Patricia Miles of Binghamton, who was awarded "Judge's Choice" for use of embellishments. In her Victorian crazy-quilt inspired "Jigsaw," lurex and mylar fabrics assembled into compelling, puzzle piece shapes are haloed with a network of intricate embroidery.

Many quilts in the show are traditionally-styled showpieces that remain close to their roots, including several where subtle shifts of color and shape are used to create trompe d'oeil effects. Carol Soderlund's "Covenant" uses more than 100 different fabrics, used mostly in strips to create what appears to be a three dimensional globe of interlaced ribbons bathed

Quilts=Art=Quilts

- **WHAT:** Fiber art.
- **WHERE:** Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center, 205 Genesee St., Auburn.
- **WHEN:** through Jan. 3.
- **HOURS:** Tue.-Fri. noon-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 1-5 p.m.
- **ADMISSION:** \$1 general, free under 12.
- **INFO:** 315-255-1553.



photo by KAREY SOLOMON

INTRICATE DETAIL: of 'Morning at Christmas Gazebo,' designed and created by Brooktondale's Nancy Ann Sobel.

fect of the wall hanging from every angle.

And several offer moments of quiet whimsy, like Kathryn Peliman's "Herd of Cats," and Sharon Stroud's "A Tulip's Season," chronicling one flower's life-cycle

from bulb past bloom in an intricately quilted jewel that could fit comfortably on a doll's bed.

Once again the show is, as one spectator remarked, "Awesome." As always, it's well worth the drive. □

in light.

Others seem intended to stretch the viewer's conception of what might be done with fabric. Judith McNally Warner's "Ghost" is a multimedia presentation of sap buckets, garden fence and quilt fragments breaking away from the main body of the quilt. A few are truly three dimensional, like Carol Bryer Fallert's "Reflection" using undulating tucks to change the ef-

Other members who exhibited were:

Barbara Dimock

Bonnie Hill

Mary Lehmann

Judi Heath was on the traditional jurors panel

Nancy Sobel

Judge's Choice Workmanship and Use of Color
Morning at Christmas Gazebo



Quilt show '93 — Sew what?

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild is already planning for their biggest and best quilt show, "Quilts '93: Traditions and Beyond," scheduled for early October 1993, concurrent with Downtown Ithaca's annual Apple Harvest Festival weekend.

A bit early to be thinking about this, you say? Not if you plan to make a large or small quilt, wall hanging, or quilted clothing.

This holiday leisure time could be a good occasion to browse through quilt books at the public library, to think about taking a class, to check out fabric sales — and the fabric scraps many would be quilts put away for a rainy day. That rainy day is here. Sharpen your needles — quilts need to be finished by **May 8**. That's the Guild's "Selection Day," when quilted stuff will be checked out by a panel of guild members from **10 a.m.-2 p.m.** at the Unitarian Church.

Quilt members say not to worry if you're not a world-class quilter, the guild intends to encourage diversity and chooses for variety.

Some contributors will be non-quilters who will want to search their trunks and attics for vintage heirloom quilts.

For more inspiration or information, the Tompkins County Quilt Guild's next meeting is **Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m.** at the Women's Community Building.

The last time I went, I was having problems assembling a quilt with miscut pieces," says Brid Habbeman, a member of the group. "The members were so encouraging and had such a comforting vision of how the quilt would turn out. It's now a wall-hanging in my sister's home."

Can't wait til next October? Enjoy two red and green beauties, made by Lorraine Sack, currently on display at the Tompkins County Trust Company's main office, on the Commons.



THE LOVE APPLE: quilt by Eleanor Abbott of Brooktondale.

EDNA RICKARD WHEELER

Edna Rickard Wheeler died at Lakeside Nursing Home in Ithaca on March 10, 1993.



1993 Quilt Selection Committee
Lisa Turner, Katie Zarnaby, Mary Lehmann



Mecklenburg church donating 40 baby quilts

The Mecklenburg United Methodist Church will display approximately 40 baby quilts Sunday that it is donating to the Tompkins County Quilter Guild for At-Risk Babies Crib Quilts (A.B.C.).

Founded in 1988, A.B.C. is a volunteer organization that makes and distributes individual quilts for children under 6 who test positive for HIV/AIDS, are born drug-addicted or are abandoned and living in foster care.

JS-5/29/93
Religious Brief

The Mecklenburg church held an intergenerational quilting bee earlier this month.

Last year, the church donated 22 quilts to A.B.C.

The 9:30 a.m. Sunday service of dedication is open to the public. The church is located just off Route 79 on Turnpike Road.

The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild invites you to attend
Quilts '93 Traditions and Beyond

A quilt show featuring over 250 quilts including a showcase of beginning quilter's works dedicated to a founding member of the guild, Nina Linton.

Also included will be a large vendors mall, demonstrations on both days and a silent auction of small quilts with continuous bidding until 3 pm on Sunday.

All this at
Ithaca High School 1401 North Cayuga Street
Ithaca New York
Saturday October 2 and Sunday October 3
From 10 am til 5 pm each day
Admission \$2.50

* An award will be made Sun. afternoon

Spring Block Exchange



Mary Anne Treble's winning blocks



May 14, 1993 The guild took a one day bus trip to the Great American Quilt Festival in New York City.

1993 State Fair Award winner was Jacquelyn Lasada Taberg for her miniature hexagon quilt.



State Fair 1993

Annual quilt show is at Ithaca High this weekend

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild will present its biennial quilt

show "Quilts 1993 Traditions and Beyond," from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, at Ithaca High School, 1401 N. Cayuga St. Admission is \$2.50 for adults, \$1.50 for seniors and students, and children 12 and under are admitted free.

Stars of the event will be the 250 contemporary, traditional, and antique quilts on display, as well as other quilted items.

A new feature this year will be a chance to take a piece of the quilt show home. The public can get involved in continuous silent bidding on their favorites among the 40 quilts in the Auction of Small Quilts.

Bidding will end at 3 p.m. Sunday.

After the quilt show all are invited to ride the free shuttle, with a complimentary apple from Cornell Orchards, to downtown Ithaca's annual Apple Harvest Festival.



The guild sold earrings and pins with the raffle quilt pattern on them.



1993 Show Set-up



Quilt hanging in left background - "Persian Star" by Lisa Turner during Gulf War for Brigid Hubberman and quilted by Brigid's mother, Mary Carver.



Nina C. Linton Beginning Quilter Award

by Cynthia M. Linton

Almost a year ago, our Guild bade a final farewell to one of its Founding members. Today we offer a celebration in her memory. Nina Crandall Linton possessed a love of quilts and a passion for quilting. This passion was born of necessity, as it was during the depression years that Nina learned to quilt from her mother-in-law, Olive Mepham Linton.

Over the years Nina's interest in quilting grew. By the time the Tompkins County Quilters Guild was formed in 1974, Nina had retired from the Ithaca City School District where she had worked for twenty years as a teacher and reading specialist. It was then, with more time on her hands, and there, within the supportive framework of the Guild, that Nina's interest in quilting bloomed into a passion. During the early Guild years Nina was an active member, helping to organize the Bicentennial Finger Lakes Quilt Exhibit which our Guild co-sponsored with the City Federation in 1976. That show gained national recognition and strongly influenced a renewal in quilting throughout the country.

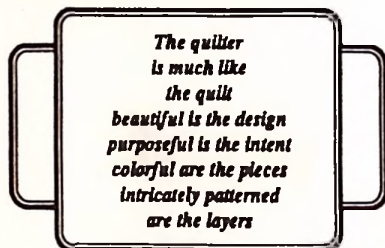
Fostering an interest in quilting was, as it still is, one of the TCQG's main purposes. In this respect Nina was truly a devoted Guild member, for she utilized any opportunity available to promote quilting. Whether it was through Guild activities, at school, or home at her chairside. For anyone willing to learn, she was there willing to teach. Occasionally Nina's knowledge and expertise brought her requests to serve as a judge at quilt

shows and to conduct workshops in the region, including at the New York State Fair.

Although much time was spent on Guild projects, Nina was also active in other organizations where she brought her quilting skills to the fore. Most notable was her involvement with the Enfield Senior Citizens which in 1980, under Nina's guiding hand, began the yearly tradition of making and donating a quilt to be raffled by the Enfield Community Council. Through quilting, she was able to express her strong commitment to her home community of Enfield. However, it was her love for her family that perhaps most inspired Nina as a quilter. The seven quilts on exhibit today are only a sampling of the more than twenty-nine that Nina lovingly hand stitched for her family. She possessed a love of quilts and a passion for quilting, a love of family and a passion to show it. Today in her memory, her family, along with the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, wishes to award the first Nina C. Linton Beginning Quilter Award. This recognition will go to a beginning quilter who has demonstrated the high standard of quality that Nina would have encouraged.

Grandma
Your life brought us joy
Your death brought us sorrow
Your quilts bring us love

Nina Crandall Linton's quilting tip #35: "It's almost impossible to do too much quilting."



Award Winner - Barbara Johnson
1993



- 1 **Endless Chain**
Exh. Jim Linton
1935 Enfield
This quilt was pieced in 1935 by Olive Mepham Linton, then quilted in 1985 by her daughter-in-law, Nina Linton. In 1991 Nina handed Endless Chain on to her eldest son, James Linton.
- 2 **Blue Dresden Plate**
Exh. Rhoda Linton
1980 Enfield
The plates were pieced sometime before 1905 by Margaret Van Riper's mother. Margaret gave the plates to Nina Linton who set and quilted them in 1980. This quilt was given to Nina's daughter, Rhoda, in 1991.

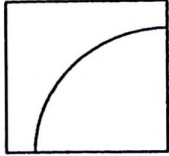
Quilts by Nina C. Linton

- 3 **Double Irish Chain**
Exh. Robert Linton, Jr.
1980 Enfield
This quilt was pieced and quilted in 1980 by Nina Linton. It was passed on to her grandson, Robert, in 1991.
- 4 **Pioneer's Puzzle**
Exh. Linda Van Nederynen
1985 Enfield
Pieced in 1985, quilted in 1987. This quilt made by Nina Linton was given to her granddaughter, Linda Linton Van Nederynen, in 1991.
- 5 **Baby Dresden**
Exh. Dustin Van Nederynen
1983 Enfield
Nina Linton scaled down the Dresden Plate design of which she was so fond, to make this baby quilt for her sixth great-grandchild, Dustin Van Nederynen.
- 6 **Butterflies**
Exh. Heather Linton
1982 Enfield
Nina appliqued and quilted this butterfly quilt in 1982. It was given to her eighth great-grandchild, Heather Linton.
- 7 **Dresden Hearts**
Exh. Rhoda Linton
1992 Enfield
This was Nina's final quilt, pieced and quilted in 1992. It remains unfinished.

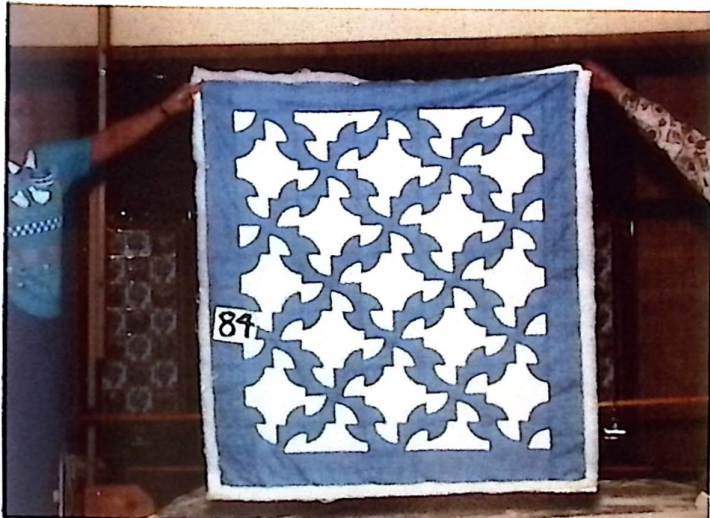
DRUNKARD'S PATH CHALLENGE

Part of the 1993 Quilt Show

Drunkard's Path Challenge



The Drunkard's Path exhibit is the result of a challenge to the Tompkins County Quilters Guild by its president, Enid Zollweg, to come up with a quilt of any size which used the Drunkard's Path pattern. By looking at this pattern and the great variety of completed projects, one can see the impact of the use of color, setting, and repeats.



Drunkard's Path
melissa Fowler



Show Me the Way to Go Home
meredith Davis



Seeking Wholeness
melissa Fowler



Psst!
Katie -
Candid
Camera
Gotcha!



1993 Show Raffle Quilt Winner of "The Guilded Lily"

Name *Russella Conde*
Address *8 Lake View*
Montrose, PA 18801
Phone *717-278-3469*
"The Guilded Lily"
QUILT DRAWING
Donation: \$1 each or 7 for \$5
WINNER



Oct. 11, 1993

Dear Katie,

This is to let you know that the quilt arrived safe and sound last Friday — the same day as your postcard came! The U.S. mail is better than they give themselves credit for.

It is also to thank you and all those quilting friends of yours for this absolutely magnificent quilt. You all have put so much time and talent into this that, I am sure, each of you owns some part of it. Thank, too, for your notice on caring for it. I feel responsible to each of you to keep it in its perfect condition for years to come.

As I was giving out the raffle tickets at your Quilt Show, I remarked to the lady in charge, that since I haven't been successful in winning our quilt at home, maybe I could win yours. (Gossiping small talk, I thought!) The quilt at home that I was speaking of is raffled at our annual Blueberry

Festival, which takes place the first weekend of August. I am enclosing the library's newsletter which tells of this GREAT event! As you can see, there is a quilt (always blue + white, of course!) raffled every year. They are always so beautiful! I invite all you quilters to come visit us next summer for this special round-up festivity! Come for breakfast — that's my job!

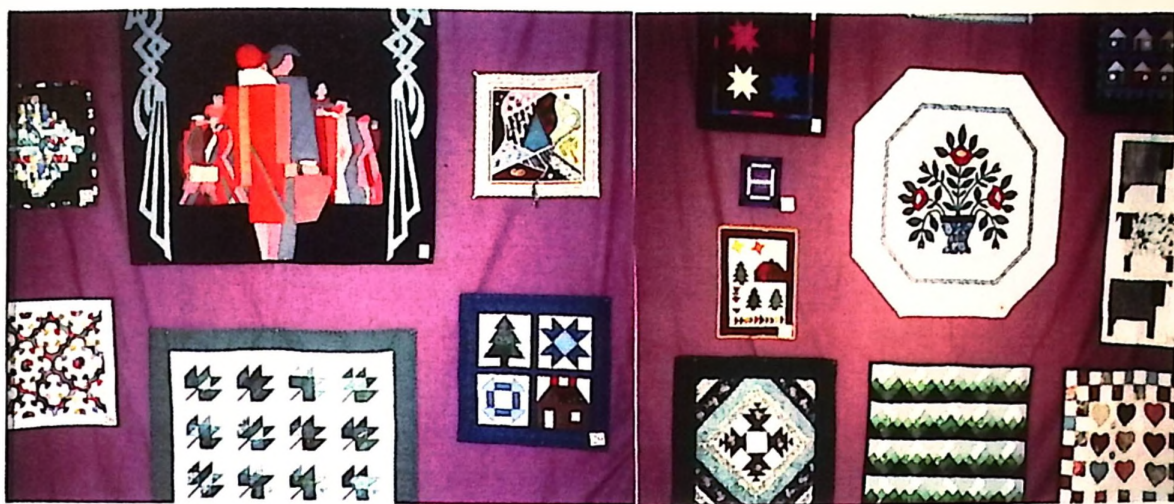
Thanks ever so much again for the quilt with the quilted lilies. I promise I'll take very good care of it! Sincerely,
Russella Conde

First Small Quilt Silent Auction
40 quilts were auctioned

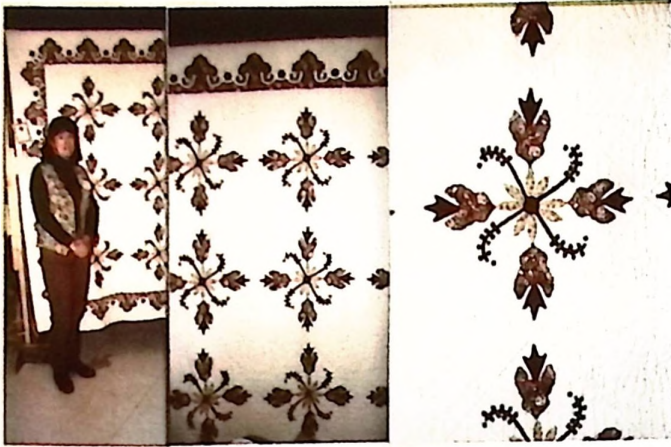
S
M
A
L
L

Q
U
I
L
T

A
U
C
T
I
O
N



1
9
9
3



Bed-sized Applique - Currants and Cockscombs
by Lynn M. Ink



Bed-sized Pieced - Curt's Quilt
by Bonnie Keith Hill

Clothing - China Rose Jacket
by Edith Traub Johnston



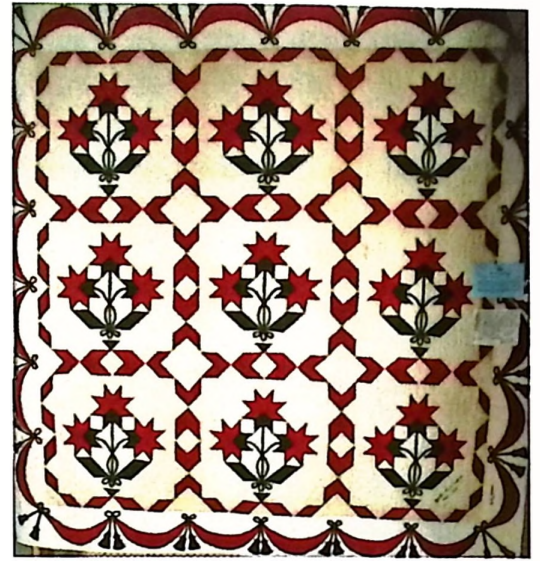
Other Winners

Wallhanging - Donna Hanley
Small Quilt - Ester Krenzin

V
I
E
W
E
R
S

C
H
O
I
C
E

1
9
9
3



Pre-1976 - Tulip or Peony
Frances E. Bruckner



Miniatures - Blue Heron
by Mary Anne Treble



Festival of Trees silent auction
 to benefit Habitat for Humanity
 Highest bid \$200 by Betty MacKenzie's
 daughter, Peggy, Philadelphia

Left to right: Lisa Turner,
 Judi heath, Beth Osterman,
 Amelia Wheeler, Gale Austen

Guild Member
 in the news
 Eleanor Abbott



🌟 Christmas Star Tree Skirt,
 60" wide, by Eleanor Abbott of
 Brooktondale, New York. This
 spectacular skirt was designed
 and made because Eleanor
 decided that she wanted a striking
 skirt for her family Christmas
 tree, but we think that 'striking'
 does not do justice to this
 Christmas heirloom. It's much
 too beautiful to even cover with
 presents!

Traditional Quilter Magazine
 Winter 1993

1994

Puzzle Quilt
Hospicare Fundraiser
1994



Won by Mike Chakanisky
110 Rothermich Rd.
Ithaca

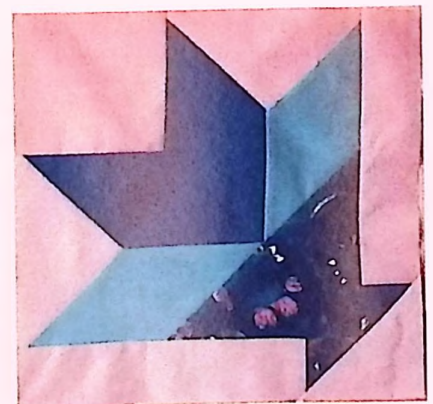
Talks
"COLOR: ONE QUILTER'S
APPROACH" — With Judy Dales,
Varna Community Center. 7 p.m.; \$3.
info. 533-7623 4/12/94

Baby quilt - Merrie Wilent
"Autumn's Quilt"
1994



SPRING BLOCK EXCHANGE (BASKETS) - 1994

1. Make a 12" (12½" unfinished size) basket SET ON POINT.
2. Block may be pieced, appliqued, or combination.
Two may share work on a combination block.
3. Use some of the fabric supplied. Add other 100% cottons
from your supply.
4. Sign your name on list when you receive fabric.
Check whether you're making an empty basket or filled basket.
5. Return finished block to Lorraine Felch or Mary Ann Treble.



sandwich or the dynamics of color in block design.

The Guild maintains a library of quilting books which are available during meetings and can be signed out. In addition the Guild typically is involved in creating a service quilt designed by members and handcrafted for a group in the community as a raffle item to raise funds. The Guild also sponsors lectures and workshops for members and the community.

Membership is open to everyone interested in the art or technique of quilting. Visitors are welcome.

For more information please call Melissa Fowler at 257 4138.

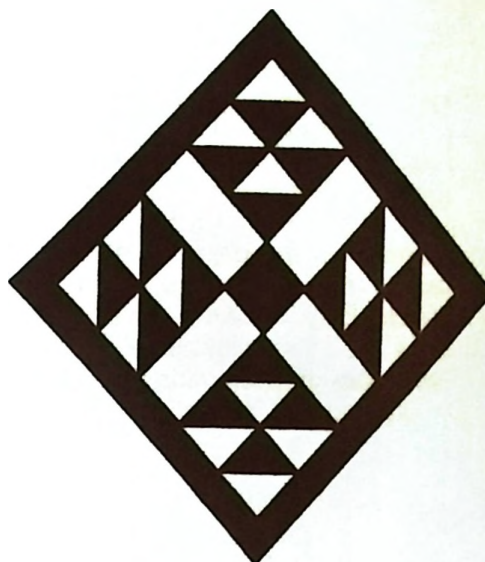
1994



The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Women's Community Building. It is growing as quickly as our country's developing enthusiasm for quilts. The Guild is a non-profit educational organization which encourages and stimulates interest in quilting. Our primary functions are to share knowledge of the mechanics of quilting and to study quilting as an historic art form.

The Guild participates in many local exhibits and puts on a major quilt show every other year. Members of the Guild

Tompkins County Quilter's Guild



Ithaca, New York

cooperate in crafting a quilt to be raffled off at the quilt show. The proceeds from this raffle and quilt show are the primary income for the guild, and support the activities for two years.

Our meetings frequently include a program, which might be a slide show, or a member showing a new technique or someone from the community showing us something related to quilting, such as printing on fabric, marbling or dyeing. Each meeting includes a simple "show and tell" where Guild members show quilts they have completed, or are working on or tell news about themselves and their quilts or news of interest to the guild.

As a service to the community, the Guild has created a teaching quilt that helps the general public to understand such things as the quilt

KIDS TO KIDS

ABC Baby Quilt Day to Make Quilts for At-Risk Babies

Kids of all ages (young and old) can make a difference. Let's see how many kids we can cover. There are many ways you can make a quilt and many ways you can help.

Saturday, May 14 10:00 - 3:00
Women's Community Building

We are ready to help you help make quilts for at-risk babies.
For more information, call Lori at 387-5328 or
Quilts 'n Things at 277-6831.

If you have pre-washed cotton or poly-cotton material
(at least 12" square) feel free to drop it off at the Women's
Community Building that day. No denims or knits, please!

A joint project of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building

Those of you who will work on your own should remember these quilts are for sick babies, will require frequent laundering and will need to be soft but strong.

1. **SIZE** 36" x 36" for newborns, 38" x 44" for older children
2. **MATERIALS** Use all cotton or cotton/poly blend. Prewash. Use bonded polyester batting, printed or plain fabrics.
3. **DESIGN** Patchwork, juvenile prints or panels, pieced, embroidered, appliqued, anything suitable for children.
4. **TYING** At least every 4" on center.
QUILTING By hand or machine, as close as batting requires.
5. **TOP STITCH** for strength, after quilt is finished, 1 inch, 1½ inches or 2 inches in from outer edge.
6. **AUTOGRAPH** in lower right corner of front or back:
ABC QUILT, YOUR NAME AND STATE.

Upcoming Events

KIDS TO KIDS PROJECT

Help us cover 200 children
with their own small quilt

Create an ABC (At-Risk Baby Crib Quilt)

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building invite quilters of all ages and skill levels to join us at the WCB on Saturday, May 14, 1994, from 10AM - 4 PM. Families, individuals, scout troops, senior citizens, church, school or youth groups are encouraged to assist us with making small quilts for children with special needs. Bring along your enthusiasm and energy - the rest will be provided. Donations of washed cotton and poly-cotton fabrics (at least 12" square) will be gladly accepted.

Please call Cheryl at 272-1247 or Alanna at 277-6831 for more details.

Women's Community Building
Spring 1994 newsletter

Quilting Promotes Family Togetherness

EJ-5/21/94



By Christine Domras

Spending time with family is very important to Brigid Hubberman, of Ithaca. However, with her hectic schedule, it isn't always easy to do. Thus, Brigid uses her love of quilting as a way to spend quality time with her family and as a means of helping an organization that is special to her and her whole family.

Three generations of Brigid's

family are involved in quilting. She quilts with her mother, Mary Carver, of Trumansburg, and her two daughters, Meagan, 14, and Sarah, 9. Brigid says, "quilting is a way to communicate while sharing an interest. Anytime someone shares a common goal or interest, they become closer in the process of achieving that goal."

Also dear to Brigid's heart is Cayuga Nature Center, for as she says, "my family has been involved with the Nature Center for years and now my children go there for overnights. It's a wonderful family organization where you learn to appreciate nature and learn to see its beauty."

Since Brigid wanted to give something back to Cayuga Nature Center for all of the memorable family experiences she's had there, she decided to design

another quilt for them that could be used as a fundraiser. After four months of work, the quilt "Birds of Cayuga Nature Center" was completed. The mother and daughter team worked together again as they did with the previous quilt "Trees of Cayuga Nature Center". Brigid designed the quilt, selected material and pieced it together. Her mother, Mary, did the thousands of stitches by hand, or actual quilting. Eleanor Abbott, of Brooktondale, graciously donated her time and talents to do the appliqueing of the different birds.

The end result is an extraordinary living room quilt featuring eight different birds, such as a meadowlark, a catbird and a chickadee. The quilt has been donated to Cayuga Nature Center as a means to raise money to support the Nature Center's programs and services. The winning ticket will be drawn at their annual Fall Festival, Saturday September 17th. The quilt will be shown around Tompkins County at various events, including Expo 94: Pathways for the Future at the Transit Center, Saturday May 21; and Ithaca Festival in Stewart Park, Sunday, June 5. The fundraising tickets may be purchased at these events and at Pranafit on the Commons and Cayuga Nature Center, six miles north of Ithaca on Route 89.

Whether Brigid is quilting with her children or mother, she doesn't hesitate to lend her abilities to different organizations. In fact, another fundraising quilt in the Baltimore Album Style will be completed soon to benefit the Breast Cancer Alliance. Her volunteer energy not only benefits others, but it is a great example of community spirit.

Ithaca Journal
May 21, 1994



"Who will be the next?"

Quilt donated to the Cancer Resource Center by Judi Heath
1994

Then & Now



Photo courtesy DeWitt Historical Society

SIGNIFICANT SCRAPS: Crazy quilt made from pieces of gowns worn by Ellen Corbett when her husband, Alonzo, was governor of New York (1880-82).

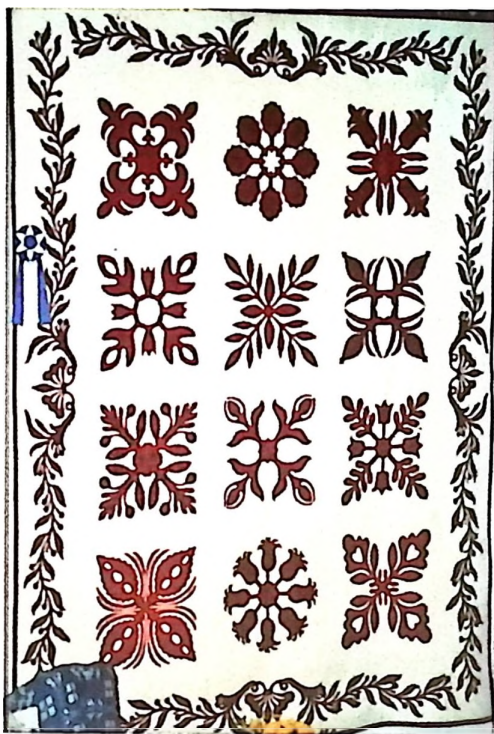
Crazy about quilts

Crazy quilts, made of oddly shaped scraps of velvet and silk, and held together by elaborate gold embroidery, were all the rage in the last quarter of the 19th century. They were influenced by Japanese art displayed at the Centennial Exposition in 1876, encouraged by women's magazines promoting the cult of domesticity, and supplied by silk scraps and cuttings left over from dressmaking.

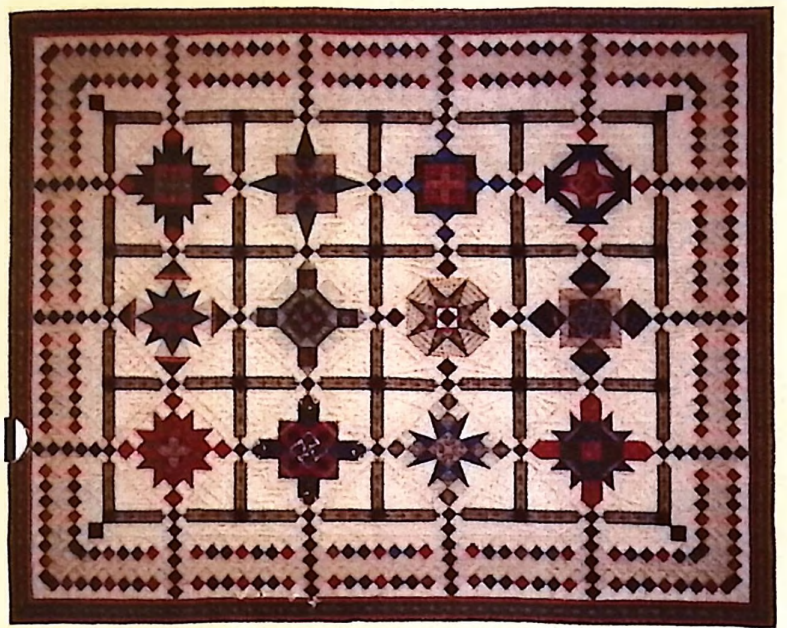
"Now we are very daring," said Harper's Bazaar in 1882. "We go boldly on without any apparent design at all." Fresh ideas of design, color, and embellishment opened doors to a new sense of personal expression. No two crazy quilts are alike. Many of them were made of significant scraps — pieces from wedding gowns, ball gowns and commemorative ribbons. They are peppered with sayings and autographs, joined with fancy stitches, and embroidered with popular symbols. Each one has a story to tell about its maker and times. Much reviled and admired in their time, today we look at these quilts with a new appreciation of their importance in the ongoing story of American quilting.

On Saturday, Dec. 3 at 11 a.m. Elizabeth Mulholland will speak on "The Domestic Environment of the Crazy Quilt" using examples from the collection of the Dewitt Historical Society. The program is free and open at the Tompkins County Museum, 401 E. State St. in Ithaca. The public is invited to bring Crazy Quilts to share.

Ithaca Journal
November 1994



NY State Fair award - 1994
 "Crimson Echoes"
 Clara Pope, Syracuse



11.28.94

Dear Amelia
 and The Tompkins County
 Quilt Guild members,

Thank you so much for
 the award that you offered
 to the N.Y.S. Fair. I was
 very surprised and
 honored to receive it.

I'm sorry I didn't get this
 photo off to you much
 sooner but I've been
 out of town for the last
 6 wks. and just now was
 able to have my film
 developed.

Excuse again, Thank you.
 Maybe one day we will
 meet - I hope so -

Sincerely,
 Clara Pope



Schweinfurth celebrates poetry in fabric

Auburn museum show sews up quilting's status as an art form

By GEORGE BUMGARDNER
Special to The Journal

QUILTS aren't just for comfort any more. In fact, curling up by the fireplace in one of the 125 quilts on exhibit at the Schweinfurth Art Center would be as unthinkable as wrapping yourself in a painting.

Indeed, one of the purposes of the exhibition, according to the Schweinfurth's Associate Director Susan Martney, is to get people to look at quilts the same way they do at paintings.

One hundred sixteen artists from 20 over the United States, including 10 from the Ithaca area, are participating. Now in its 12th year, this annual exhibition is large, but not by any means the largest. That distinction goes to the American Quilters Society show in Kentucky, which exhibits 1,000 or more quilts. When you add to those numbers all the smaller shows by local quilting groups, it's obvious that quilting is as popular as Sunday painting.

More important — and this is the strength of the Schweinfurth show — the quilt can be an art form worthy of being considered on equal footing with any other. Quilts, like most of the decorative arts have long suffered in comparison with the so-called fine arts, simply because they can be functional as well as attractive. Yet a quilt, when created with intelligence and talent, bears as little resemblance to department-store or

'Quilts = Art = Quilts'

What: 12th annual juried quilt show

When: Through Jan. 9

Where: Schweinfurth Art Center, 205 Genesee St., Auburn

Info: (315) 255-1553

complex patterns redolent of 19th-century America, contemporary traditional quilts are often remarkable for the thousands of tiny, precise stitches which give them texture. Florence Burke's "White on White," for instance, relies exclusively on stitching to produce its effect. In its own medium, Burke's quilt is every bit as subtle and complex as Frank Stella's early black-on-black paintings.

The nontraditional quilts and wall hangings, which make up about half of the show, encompass a broad range of subjects and effects. They can be uncannily close to, and in some cases surpass much of, contemporary painting. Some are like abstract expressionist works, others like landscapes. Catherine Anthony's quilt has the Pop Art zip of Lichtenstein. Alycia Tomach investigates how architecture fits into its surroundings. Jacqueline



SEW DETAILED: A portion of 'Medieval Women at Work' by Ithacan Patty Elwin Davis. The quilt was named 'Judge's Choice for Excellent Pictorial' in the advanced category.

A quilt, when created with intelligence and talent, bears as little resemblance to department-store or mail-order bedcovers as a paint-by-number canvas does to a Matisse.

mail-order bedcovers as a paint-by-number canvas does to a Matisse.

The quilt as art is still undiscovered by most of the art world and the general public.

"It's a real underground," says Martney. The art quilt now has its own "stars" like Nancy Bayer and Nancy Crowe, whose quilts are to be featured in an upcoming exhibition at the Amot Museum.

These fabric paintings fall into two broad categories. The traditional quilts may be either pieced, appliqued, or wall hangings, and they are based on old patterns with evocative names like Bear's Paw, Block in the Box, Drunkard's Path, and the perennially favorite Double Wedding Ring.

Aside from their colorful and

Kuritt's "Weave Structure" uses puffed-out elements to break the two-dimensional plane.

While there are no video quilts, computer-age techniques have made their inroads here as in painting and graphics. Judith Warner incorporates computer-designed pieces of written text printed on cloth with a variety of techniques.

There is often a marked intellectuality to the works, as in Paula Lederkammer's interpretation of "Block in the Box," Judy Speezak's "Checked Past," and Judy Dales' "Star Power." Like the Dutch graphic artist Maurits Escher, these artists make use of the optical possibilities of the tiling effect. This is all the more intriguing because the very nature of the quilting medium, with

its myriad interlocking pieces, lends itself so naturally to such optico-philosophical investigations. Dales, for instance, bases the design of her work on a geometric figure known as "The Lute of Pythagoras." The smaller stars, which she has geometrically nestled in the angles of the larger stars, almost seem to be exploding.

Feminism and other contemporary social concerns are very much a part of the repertory of the nontraditional quilt. Carole Lyles makes use of uncut threads and raw fabric edges to symbolize her personal struggle to integrate her African heritage in her life and work. Audrey Nichols suggests the cycle of life, death, and rebirth in her "Mother Earth's Birthwaters." Among the traditional quilters, Ithacan Patty Davis, one of the three top award winners, has created a pictorial quilt based on the theme of medieval women at work.

These are contemporary reassessments of the relationship between women and the art of the quilt. Significantly, recent research and publications on historical quilts

stress that the quilts of yesteryear were more than just housewives' handwork and that they incorporated and expressed a very sophisticated esthetic.

It is significant that men, too, have begun to find the quilt a perfectly legitimate art form. Ithacan

Andrew Jordan's untitled nontraditional quilt and Vincent Wesolowski's treatment of civil rights and human rights are but two instances pointing in the direction of the acceptance of "fabric paintings" as a serious art medium by everyone.

Local quilters on display

Here's a list of the local quilters participating in the Schweinfurth show. "Advanced" quilters are those who teach quilting or sell their work:

- Liese Bronfenbrenner, Ithaca, "Storm Windmills"
- Patty Elwin Davis, Ithaca, "Medieval Women at Work" (judge's choice for excellent pictorial, advanced)
- Melissa Craven Fowler, Ithaca, "Seeking Wholeness"
- Janet Gray, Ithaca, "Charting the Stars"
- Bonnie K. Hill, Ithaca, "Curt's Quilt" (second place tie, beginner, traditionally pieced quilt)
- Diane I. Hillman, Jacksonville, "Christmas in the Mountains" (honorable mention, beginner, traditional pieced quilt)
- Andrew Jordan, Ithaca, "Untitled" (second place winner, beginner, non-traditional quilt)
- Mary Lehmann, Trumansburg, "Eye of the Storm" (honorable mention, advanced, traditional pieced quilt) and "My Mother's Flower Garden"
- Marie P. Witzel, Ithaca, "Scrappy Sampler"

Ithaca Journal
December 30, 1994

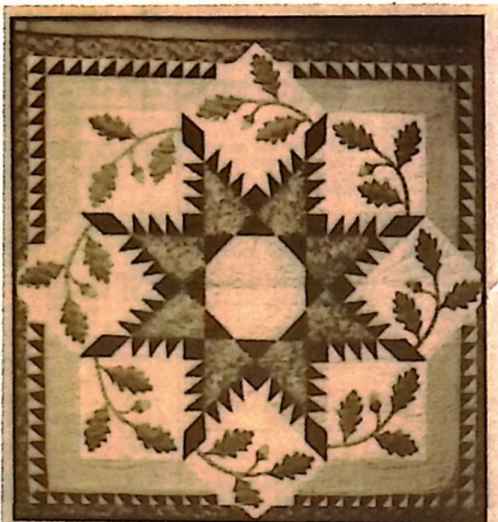
1995



Noah's Fish Quilt
Baby quilt for Ann Zinsmeister



Tree block exchange at
Christmas Party



PIECE-MAKERS: Bring old quilts and new to Selection Evening for two upcoming quilt shows. Shown here is 'Oak Star,' pieced and appliqued by Brigid Hubberman, quilted by Mary Carver.

FINGER LAKES COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS/MAY 17, 1995

While reading the *American Quilter* magazine, summer 1995 issue, there appeared the familiar name of Mary Lehmann, Waterburg Road. Mary, a quilter for almost 13 years, had submitted an illustrated article, "Scenes Through My Window," showing how to use fabrics with scenes by creating a nine-panel window wall hanging. The photos reveal four different scenes which look just like one would see looking out a window.

Quilt selection tonight

All area residents are invited to bring their old and new quilts for possible selection for Quilts '95 Traditions and Beyond, the Tompkins County Quilter Guild's biennial quilt show, which will be held Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at the National Guard Armory.

The selection will be held from 7:30-9 tonight at the Varna Community Center on Route 366. For more information, call 257-5285. JS - 5/23/95

Spring 1995 Block Exchange
Made by Alyce Anderson
4 blocks won by Alyce
4 blocks won by Sarah Wilhelm

Patchmaker, patchmaker ...

All area residents are invited to bring their old and new quilts for possible selection for **Quilts '95 Traditions and Beyond**, the Tompkins County Quilter Guild's biennial quilt show, which will be held Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at the National Guard Armory.

Tuesday
Varna

The selection evening will be held from 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday at the Varna Community Center on Route 366. *5/23/95 Arts & Leisure*
For more information, call 257-5285.





NY State Fair - Barbara Conte Gaugel - 1995

4/12/95

Dear Anneli and Guild Members,

I thank you very much for your wonderful prize in recognition of my quilt. It was the first time that I received a 1st place at the NYS Fair so it is especially gratifying for me to know that my quilt will be in your guild's archives!

At the moment the quilt is in the Schenectady show. The photos I do have are not very good but as soon as I get it back in Jersey, I'll take more. I'll be sure to send you along to your folks again soon so much.

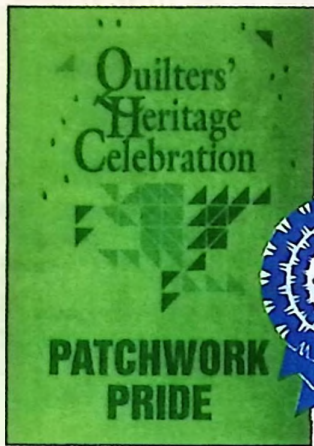
Barbara

P.S. I've not heard from your guild.



Working on the 1995 raffle quilt.
Clockwise from lower left:
Melissa Fowler, Ann Seymour, ?, Sarah Wilhelm, Eleanor Abbott, Jeannie Pluck

WELCOME TO
THE 8TH ANNUAL
Quilters' Heritage Celebration



APRIL 6-9, 1995
LANCASTER HOST RESORT
AND CONFERENCE CENTER
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Bus Trip to the Lancaster,
Pennsylvania quilt show
April 7-8, 1995

QUILTERS GUILD SPOTLIGHT by Jennette Driscoll
Meet the Tompkins County Quilters Guild

Take a few moments to meet the Quilters of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, and make your plans now to visit and participate in their quilt show this September.



In August of 1974, a group of women, led by Jeanne Greene, planned an exhibit of quilts. The community's response was enthusiastic; Tompkins County had an interest in quilts. Over the next few months, the quilters met several times to lay the foundation of a new organization for quilters. The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild officially formed in November 1974 with twenty members, led by President Jeanne Greene.

As the nation geared up to celebrate its 200th birthday, the members of the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild geared up for an ambitious event—the 1976 Bicentennial Fingerlakes Quilt Exhibit. Showing about 600 quilts from all over the fourteen fingerlakes counties, it was indeed an impressive event for such a young group to pull off. Pull it off they did. Besides the quilt exhibit, the Bicentennial show featured the Tompkins County Bicentennial Quilt and lectures by nationally known quilt teachers. Some quilting leaders have credited this exhibit as a principal force in the quilt revival of the eighties.

Today the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild boasts over eighty members, and it's still growing. Two years ago, the group outgrew its smaller room in the Women's Community Building, but has no complaints about holding all their meetings in that building's auditorium. Their new home provides ample space for current activities and future growth. Though they consider themselves somewhat informal for such a large organization, their meeting schedule is well planned. The second Tuesday of every month is the program meeting. This meeting may consist of a lecture on the care and preservation of quilts, an extended show-and-tell session by a few members, or the demonstration of a new technique. Emphasis shifts toward business on

the fourth Tuesday; committees work out club business or plan the Guild's biennial quilt show, members work on the Guild's raffle and service quilts, or bring their own projects to work on. Between the whole-guild meetings, several subgroups meet in members' homes. Each subgroup is limited to fifteen people and has a distinct focus. One group plans and executes service projects; another strives to share new, "avant garde" techniques; yet another subgroup meets to give members a chance to work on their own projects without interruptions!

According to current president Melissa Fowler, the Guild's committee structure makes the administration of such a large group manageable. The seven standing committees—budget and allocation, program, newsletter, membership, guild projects, library and equipment, and community service—plus the show committees, are fully responsible for their assigned tasks. All guild members are encouraged, though not required, to serve on the committees, and the committees benefit from their constituents' wide-ranging experiences. The Guild quilters include stay-at-home Moms, homemakers, professors, daycare providers, nurses, and professionals from nearby Cornell University and Ithaca College. The quilters range in age from twenty-five to seventy, and represent varying degrees of quilting expertise.

Programs are carried out by Guild members, national teachers, and outside professionals.

The official purpose of the Guild is to, "Promote, support, and stimulate quilting in Tompkins County." To that end, the guild develops service projects, quilt shows, and social activities, and the group functions as a source of support and encouragement to all quilters—new or

professional. Says Fowler, "Every quilter's project . . . no matter what the experience level of the quilter, her project receives oohs and aahs. I've never heard a criticism." If a quilter needs help with a specific technique, another quilter experienced with that technique may teach it at a later time, never implying that the previous effort was found wanting. Visitors are very welcome to attend meetings—in fact, several programs a year are planned to be of interest to the community at large.

Visitors can expect to see a display of about 180 quilts, check out current Guild projects, observe quilting demonstrations.

Programs are carried out by Guild members, national teachers, and outside professionals; for one upcoming meeting, a textile conservationist from the Johnson Museum of Art is scheduled to talk about the preservation of quilts.

Community service projects provide a means for the Guild to reach out to others in the area as well. The guild donates prize money to various contests in the area and supports local educational and support facilities. Tompkins County Quilter's Guild is underwriting part of the research behind the Central New York Black History Quilt, supports WSKG TV, a local public station that airs several quilting shows, and has donated books to the Tompkins County Library, Cayuga Nature Center, Hospicare, and the women's shelter have received quilts to be raffled off as fund raisers. The guild has also taken a rather active role producing ABC quilts.

Somewhere, the Guild members find additional energy to carry out a variety of activities that promote the social atmosphere within the

Guild. Quilters pile into buses or form carpools, and make a day trip out to Quilting by the Lake or the Art-Quilts-Art event in Auburn. Overnight trips to big quilt shows, such as the Quilter's Heritage Celebration in Lancaster, PA this April are quite popular. New mothers can greet their future quilters with a Guild-made baby quilt, a true blanket of love. Creativity is given a workout by the two challenges held each year, usually around the holidays and in the spring. The challenges focus changes each time—perhaps centering around a particular fabric one time, a specific block another. This spring the Guild members have been challenged to create an attic windows block, showing the theme, "spring!"

Preparations are currently in full swing for the Guild's upcoming quilt show, to be held at the Tompkins County Armory on September 30 and October 1, 1995. Visitors can expect to see a display of about 180 quilts, check out current Guild projects, observe quilting demonstrations, purchase raffle tickets for a very special bed-size quilt, and visit the participating vendors to stock up on those gotta-have-it quilting supplies. A major attraction from last year—the silent auction—is returning this year as well. Says Melissa Fowler, "The silent auction was very popular last time, because it was an easy way for people to come to our show, and walk out with a quilt!" At this year's auction, many small quilts will be available for bidding. Melissa and the rest of the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild would be delighted to see you there!

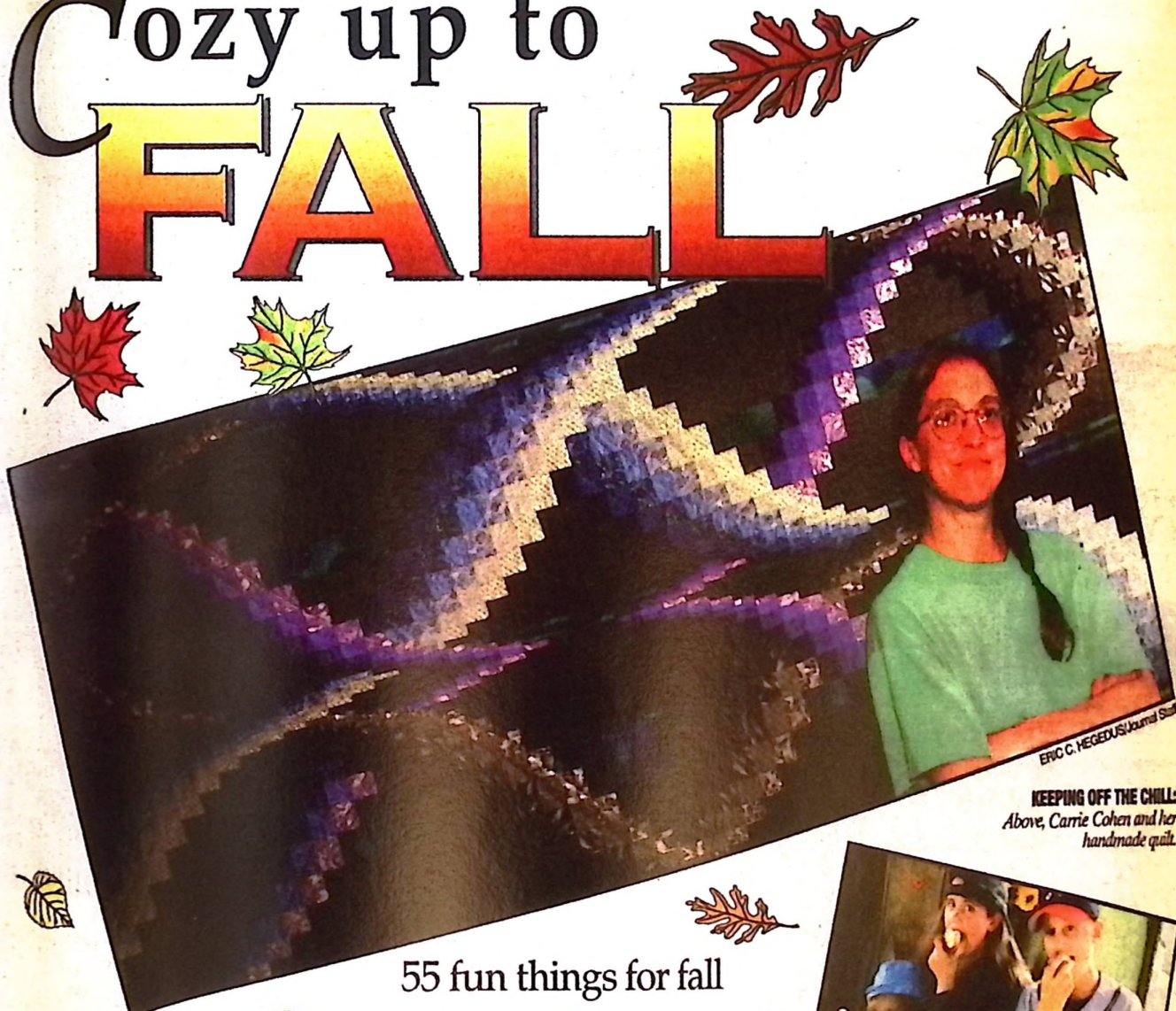
We would love to hear about your group, its beginnings, and see photos of your latest quilting projects. If you send in the letter/photos that prompt us to write about your group you'll receive a free subscription to The Quilt Peddler Newsletter for one year.

The Quilt Peddler
Spring 1995

ARTS & LEISURE

Cozy up to

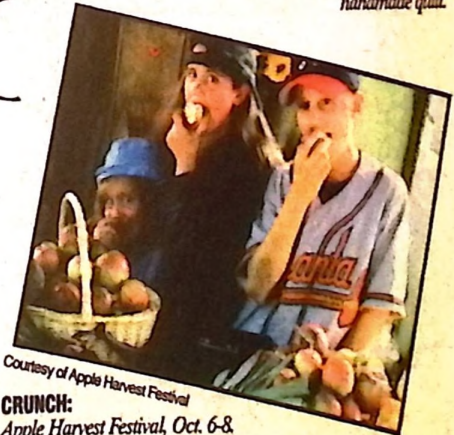
FALL



ERIC C. HEGEDUS/Journal Staff

KEEPING OFF THE CHILL:
Above, Carrie Cohen and her handmade quilt.

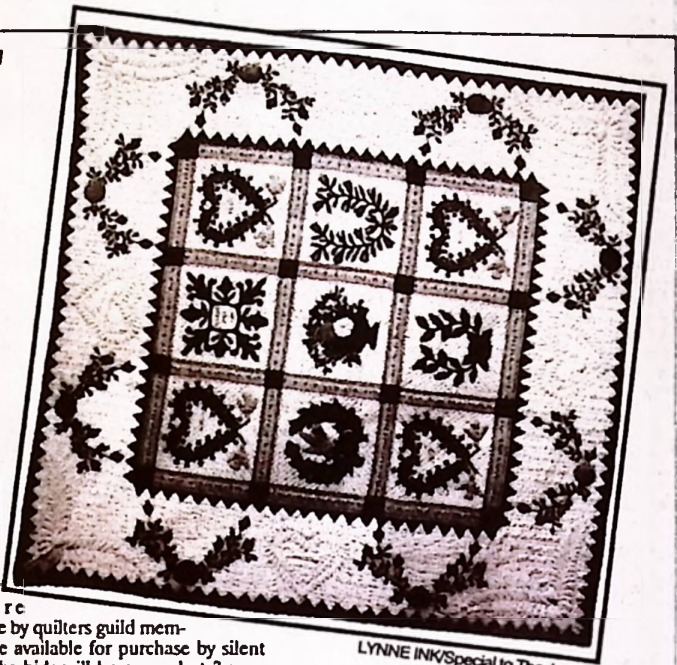
55 fun things for fall
 Five foliage drives
 Quilters Guild show
 Apple Harvest Festival
 Coverage begins Page 7



Courtesy of Apple Harvest Festival
CRUNCH:
Apple Harvest Festival, Oct. 6-8.



Wrap yourself up in FALL



LYNNE INK/Special to The Journal

By KAREY SOLOMON
Special to The Journal

Call it 'blankie syndrome,' says Brigid Hubberman, member of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. "I don't know what it is, but people are drawn to quilts."

It's a predilection that can be satisfied Saturday and Sunday when more than 150 quilts made by the quilt guild's 100 members and others will be on display at the National Guard Armory on Hanshaw Road. The show, the group's tenth, happens regularly — in alternate years, "because so much goes into putting on the show that we can pull it off only every two years," Hubberman says.

This time around, the show is titled "Traditions and Beyond."

None of the quilts on display this time will have been in previous guild shows. Instead, those on view will be newly made quilts and rediscovered antiques that haven't been shown before. Quilters say that nearly every method of making a quilt will be seen — appliquéed and pieced, machine-sewn miniatures and king-sized quilts made entirely by hand.

There will also be special exhibits featuring group projects made by guild members and others.

Preparation for the show began last May when the guild hosted a day-long selection of quilts, inviting the community as well as its own membership to bring in quilts for viewing and evaluation. Lisa Turner, who served on the selection committee, says the group had to — reluctantly — limit its choices to 150 quilts that could be hung in the time available and viewed well in the space.

They also

The basics

■ **What:** Tompkins County Quilters Guild Biennial Quilt Show

■ **Where:** National Guard Armory, 1765 Hanshaw Road

■ **When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

■ **Admission:** \$3 general, \$2 students

wanted to be inclusive, so a variety of quilts were chosen "to give encouragement to people who might want to make quilts and give recognition to quilters at all levels," Turner says. "There's no such thing as an average quilter — or an average quilt."

Quilts, in this context, also mean banners, clothing, accessories and art quilts. "The show has the depth of quilting from antique to modern and from beginner to people who have developed quilting techniques as an artistic medium," Turner says. "So we have that whole spectrum."

Alyce Anderson, who served as co-chair of the show with Beth Osterman, says quilting has not only experienced a revival since the nation's bicentennial year, but it has also experienced a more recent explosion of new possibilities.

"In the last few years, the fabric industry has grown and branched out, giving quilters an opportunity to select unusual fabrics and combinations," she says. "New availability of threads, yarns and cords is also exciting."

Among the special works on display will be several quilts made by children, an African-American history quilt, an anti-drug quilt made by students in the Caroline School with art teacher Melanie Walker and several white-on-white quilts.

Thirty miniature quilts made by quilters guild members will be available for purchase by silent auction. The bids will be opened at 3 p.m. Sunday; proceeds support guild activities.

The quilters group, about 100 members strong, has worked on a variety of quilt-related service activities, creating quilts to donate as fund-raisers for such places as the Task Force for Battered Women, Hospice and the Cayuga Nature Center. Crib quilts have been made for the At-Risk Baby Crib (ABC) Quilt Project; as a group they've also made lap robes for residents of nursing homes.

"Everyone works on at least one service project each year," Hubberman explains. "The faster things go in our lives, the more we need to slow down and do something especially our own, using our hands. It's purposeful handwork, creating something, and fabric is tactile; it's something you can touch and hold. You don't have to be under a quilt to feel its warmth."

Show-goers can be the judge of the results of the handiwork — literally.

Viewer's choice awards will be given on the last day to quilters in different categories who drew the most votes for their work.

Vendors of fabrics, books, patterns and quilt supplies will also be part of the two-day event. And those inspired by what they see and buy can learn new techniques from on-going demonstrations by guild members on various aspects of the quilter's art including paper piecing, curved piecing and hand dyeing.

Turner says the quilt show is a gift from the quilters guild to the community. "And from the community," she adds. "We wouldn't have this without all the busy stitchers."

WARM AND COZY: This Baltimore Album quilt was hand-appliquéd and hand-quilted by Lynne Ink.

Demonstrations

Saturday

■ **11 a.m.:** Fabric orayons for children

■ **Noon:** Quick Flying Geese by Judi Heath

■ **1 p.m.:** Fabric dyeing by Renee Gentz

■ **2 p.m.:** Paper piecing (or flip and sew) by Lisa Turner

■ **3 p.m.:** Curved piecing by Mary Lehman

■ **4 p.m.:** Appliqué in 3-D by Melissa Fowler

Sunday

■ **Noon:** Machine quilting by Mary Anne Treble

■ **1 p.m.:** Quick tricks by Bonnie Hill

■ **2 p.m.:** Bird Ross's machine quilting as a construction method by Bonnie Hill



QUILTS 1995

Traditions and Beyond

Over 200 Quilts,
new and antique

Special Exhibits

Super Vendor Mall

Daily Demonstrations

Auction of Small Quilts

National Guard Armory

1765 Hunshaw Rd.

(just north east of Ithaca, off Rt. 13)

Ithaca, New York

September 30, 10 - 5

October 1, 11 - 5

Admission: \$3.00

Seniors and Students: \$2.00

Tompkins County Quilters

Quilt show is this weekend

"Traditions and Beyond" is the theme of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild biennial quilt show scheduled for this weekend.

More than 200 new and antique quilts and quilted items will be on display from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the National Guard Armory on Hunshaw Road.

Admission to the show is \$3; \$2 for seniors and students. Advance tickets are available at the Ticket Center at the Clinton House, 114 N. Cayuga St.

This year's show will feature a silent auction of small and miniature quilts, with continuous bidding until 3 p.m. Sunday.

Daily demonstrations for the family and a Vendors Mall, well-stocked with fabrics, patterns, books and notions.

Bring any scraps of cotton and flannel fabric — no knits or denims — at least 12 inches square to be donated for use in quilts for the At-Risk Baby Crib (ABC) Quilt Project.

For more information, call 266-0850.

IS - 9/30/95



1995
Show Raffle
Quilt

"Wheel
of
Fortune"

won by:

Elizabeth VanHarken
Avon, NY

(Mary Ellen Hawker's
cousin)



Part of Small Quilt
Silent Auction
1995

Spotlights

Events supported or sponsored by Wegmans



Come to **QUILTS 1995**
Traditions and Beyond

National Guard Armory

1765 Hunshaw Road

(just NE of Ithaca, off Route 13)

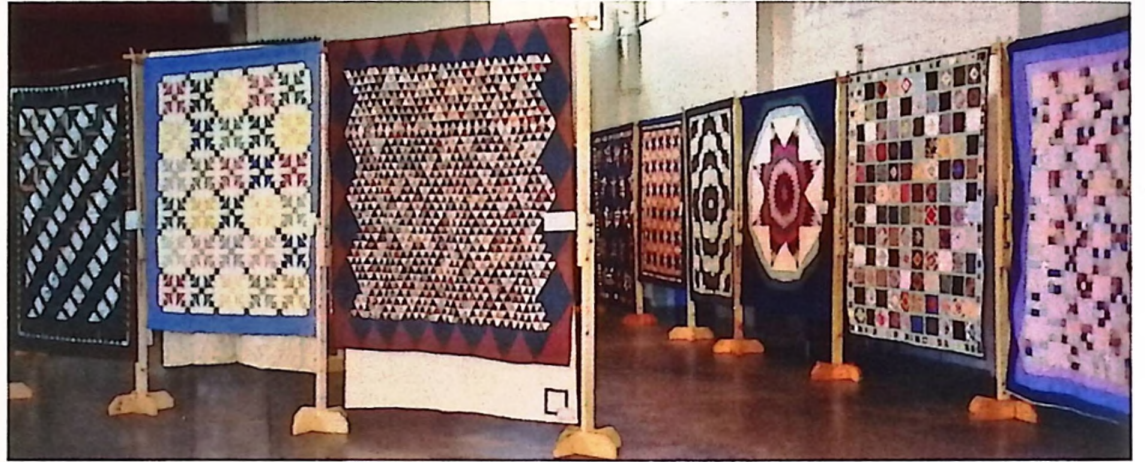
September 30, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

October 1, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

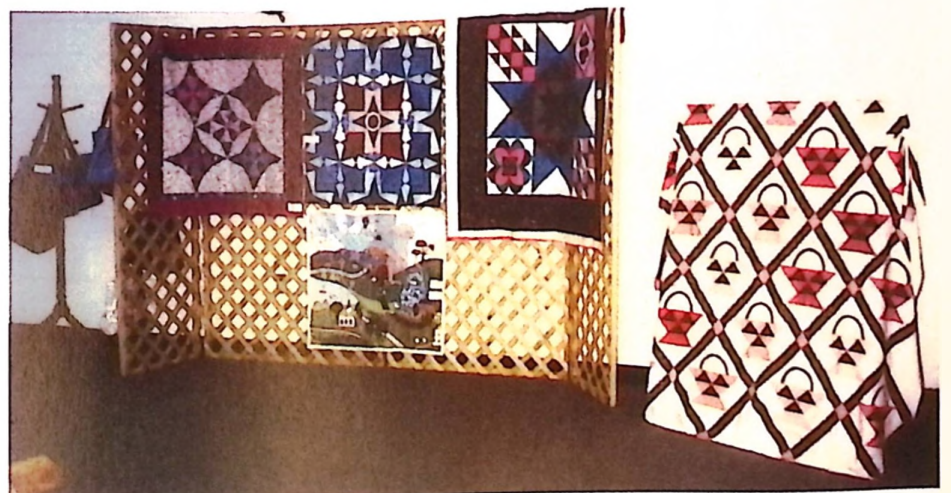
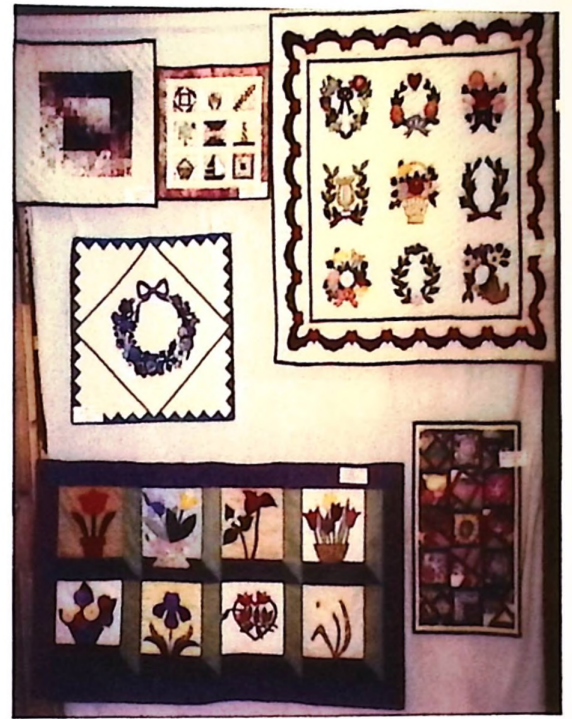
Admission 3.00. Students and Seniors 2.00

Over 200 quilts, new and antique, special exhibits,
daily demonstrations and quilt auction.

Brought to you by the Tompkins County Quilters



Guild Projects



Viewer's Choice Awards - 1995



Full size applique-
Princess Feather
Lynn Ink



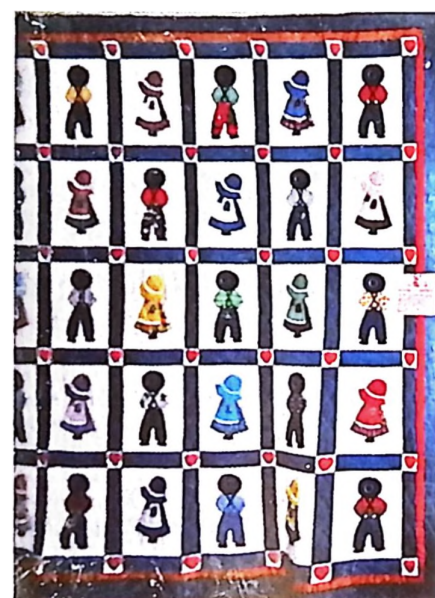
Small Quilt- Jordan's Quilt
Brynne Sigg
Baby Quilt for Brynne's baby
Jordan, top made by Guild.



Miniature - On the Dole
Melissa Fowler



Full size pieced-
Only Kokapelli knows
Judi Heath



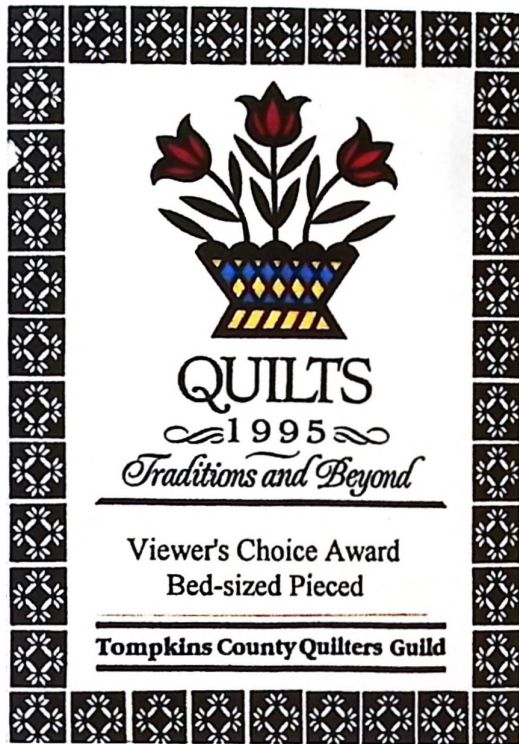
1995 Nina C. Linton Award
to Lisa Heigl
Beginning Quilt
Sunbonnet Sue and Overall Sam



Clothing-
Life of a Cat
Alyce Anderson



Wall Hanging-
Miniature Rose Garden
Lynn Ink



Sample of the Awards Labels



Participation certificate



Courtesy of Anne McLaughlin

Silent wreath auction continues downtown

^{12/95}
 This quilted Christmas wreath is one of the many unique and creative wreaths on display at the silent wreath auction in the Clinton House Gallery. Donated by the Tompkins County Quilters, proceeds from the sale of this wreath will benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. Members of Downtown Ithaca Inc. have created these one-of-a-kind wreaths that are being auctioned off to benefit various local non-profit organizations. Silent bidding takes place anytime daily at Clinton House through Sunday. Winners will be announced Monday.

Ithaca Journal
 December 1995



Casey Carr and Barbara Dimock
 Thursday Evening Quilters
 1995

1996

Margaret Miller
 Workshop - April 1996



Standing: Margaret Miller, Casey Carr, Barbara Melvin, Sarah Wilhelm, Cyndi Slothower, Alanna Fontanella, Brynne Sigg, Alyce Anderson, Beth Osterman, Peggy Spofford, Suzanne Broderick, ?, Emi Katayami
 Front: Anne Garretson, Amelia Wheeler, Denise Lentini, Barbara Dimock, Melissa Fowler, Donna Hall



Margaret Miller, Margie Bracewell, Barbara Dimock
 Jane Converse, Jessica Drennan, Donna Hall



May 14, 1996
 Guild sponsored a Pat Nelson
 fashion show at the Holiday Inn.
 Barbara Dimock is modeling one of
 Pat's jackets.

Guild Member in the News

Beth Mulholland
 DeWitt Historical Society newsletter
 Summer/Fall 1996

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

No other volunteer at the DeWitt has had Beth Mulholland's fate. In August 1970 she began as a volunteer and in June 1971 she found herself as full-time director. John Marcham, then on the county's Board of Representatives, made common cause with her to improve the professional standing and the financial position of the Society. The county's contribution to the budget was increased and the title of the employee charged with leadership responsibilities was changed from curator to director.

During her tenure much was accomplished; the June 1973 DHS newsletter cited the artifact inventory, memorable exhibits mounted at the Boardman House, gifts were increased, and goals were set. Beth resigned after two years, just before the DeWitt made plans to move from the old Courthouse to the Clinton House. "I missed the move, and I love moving," she says wistfully, without a trace of irony. Twenty years later she had another chance.



VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE, *Beth Mulholland*

An enduring memory of the move to the Dean Building is petite Beth single-handedly maneuvering 29 tubes 8 feet long up a narrow winding staircase from the basement, and shepherding them across town to the new museum. Around these tubes were wrapped her beloved quilts.

Beth's enthusiasm for quilts is what brought her back to the DeWitt. A quilter since childhood and a collector of quilts, she has researched, catalogued, and cared for the DeWitt's collection since 1991. She is currently preparing an exhibit of quilts with a star motif to open in November. Floral arrangements at our special events and in the current wedding exhibit showcase another of her talents. Beth has contributed in many ways to the whole community, notably her work with Circle Greenway and the Elizabeth Mulholland Six Mile Creek Wildflower Preserve. In 1995 she received the Tompkins County Trust Company Award of Excellence for her volunteer work.



Beth Osterman & Polly Gustelius Projects Board



Beth Osterman



Barbara Dineck

Casowasco
Retreat
1996

Our first retreat was organized by Alanna Fontanella. It took place in March 1996 at Camp Casowasco a Methodist camp on Owasco Lake.

Kate Miller



Marion DeGloria



Peggy Spottford

C
A
S
O
W
A
S
C
O

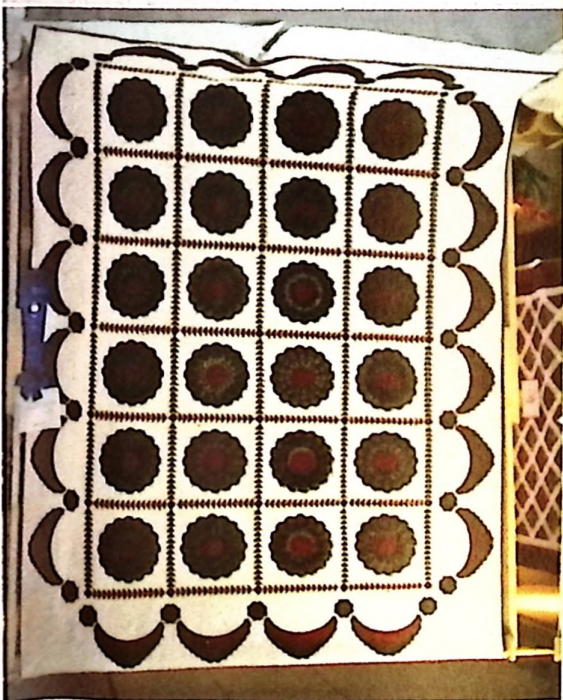
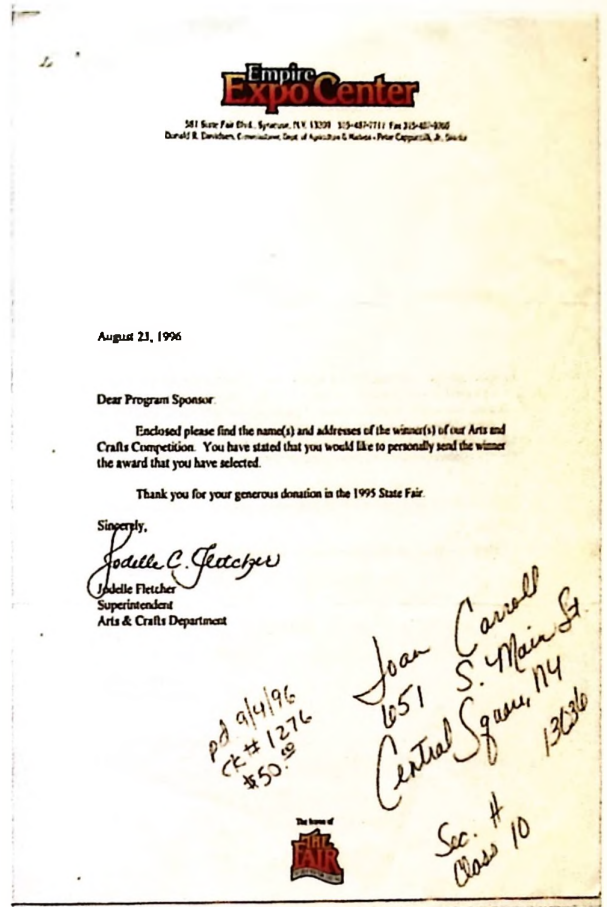


Jane Converse

Awards

August 1996 donated to New York State Fair for a special quilting award. Won by Joan Carroll, Central Square, New York.

October donated to Schweinfurth Museum for a second place award at "Quilts=Art=Quilts."



Sept 9, 1996

Dear Barbara,

Thank you so much for the Tompkins County Quilter Guild Award. I feel very honored to have won it. Please pass on my thanks to all the Guild members.

I am enclosing a picture of my quilt as you requested.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Joan Carroll

← Netherlands Block Exchange →

In 1993 the Tompkins County Quilter's Guild agreed to "swap" pieced blocks with a group of quilters in the Netherlands (called the Lakenquilters) in response to an ad in the Country Living magazine. We received 17 blocks and in return we shipped them ours. A beautiful quilt was designed and quilted by the Monday night Splinter Group. We will retain the quilt in the Guild as a token of friendship between the Guilds.



Blocks made by quilters in the Netherlands and sent to our guild

Quilt Exposition -- including work of the Cloth Quilters

The 22 members show their quilts with such as (U.S.) all pieces of work from the challenge. Also demonstratic Raffle of the "Cloth Village" quilt with proceeds going to a childrens fund.

*quilttentoonstelling
met werk van de Lakenquilters
12 t/m 22 september 1996*



"Amerikaanse blokken" - Lakenquilters

foto willeen de zwijger gooch

*De 22 leden tonen hun quilts met o. a alle
werkstukken van de "uitdaging". Tevens demonstraties.
Verloting van de "Lakendorp" quilt ten bate van
Stichting Kinder TV AZL.*

Geopend.

*donderdag-, zaterdag- en zondagmiddag van
13.30-16.30 uur en op donderdagavond
van 19.30-21.30 uur.*

GREVELINGSTRAAT 50, 2955E.

Blocks made by TCOG members
and sent to quilters group in the Netherlands

In 1993 Gale Austen found an ad in a quilting magazine from a quilt group in the Netherlands. The group wanted to exchange quilt blocks with a guild in America. Gale took the ad to a guild meeting and after some discussion sixteen quilters each agreed to make a block. After Gale corresponded with Francine Verhoor of the Lakenquilters in the Netherlands a four year project began.

Our guild sent blocks to the Lakenquilters and received blocks in return. Guild members worked on the project to put the blocks received into a quilt. The project was led by the Monday night quilt group. Judi Heath crafted a design for the top using her computer. The blocks received varied in size by almost two inches so the blocks had to be framed and sized to uniformly fit. Quilting was done by hand, some at quilting bees and some by individuals.

The blocks our members sent to the Netherlands group were assembled into a quilt which was featured on the cover of the brochure they used at their 1996 quilt show. The quilt that our guild made was completed in 1997 and displayed in our quilt show that year.

Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance - 1996



"Floral Splendor"

64" x 64"

Ithaca, NY

1996

The love of quilting is a common thread that runs through many women's lives. So is the fear of breast cancer. The two came together as Tompkins County Quilters Guild members created "Floral Splendor" for the benefit of the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance, an organization providing support, information, and personal advocacy for women affected by breast cancer.

Quilt design © 1996 by Elsie P. L. Dentes
Photograph by Sheryl D. Sinkow, Art-Science Studio-Lab

T
H
E
Q
U
I
L
T
M
A
K
E
R
S



"Brigid"



"Elsie"



"Emi"



"Enid"



"Judi"



"Brynne"



"Lynn"



"Hilary"



"Barbara"

Brigid Hubberman
Enid Zollweg
Lynn Ink

Elsie Dentz
Judi Heath
Hilary Ford

Emi Katayami
Brynne Sigg
Barbara Dimock

Donate a Small Quilt to Benefit the Breast Cancer Alliance

The Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance is dedicated to provide support, education and advocacy for Tompkins County women faced with breast cancer.

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild and The Women's Community Building invite all area quilters to make a beautiful small quilt to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. The quilts will be auctioned at *Quilted With Care*, on November 9, 1996.

Any style of quilt is welcome with no single dimension to exceed 40 inches.

You can pick up additional details and register to make a quilt at Quilters Corner. We are offering a 20% discount on fabrics for use in making a small auction quilt; (sorry, but this discount excludes Skydyes). The deadline for the traveling display is July 9, 1996. The final deadline is October 8, 1996.

Quilters Corner Newsletter Spring 1996

QUILTED WITH CARE

We have been keeping you informed about the Quilted With Care project to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. We want to urge you to attend the auction on November 9 from 1-5 pm at the Women's Community Building in Ithaca. There will be approximately 100 small quilts, special entertainment, delicious edibles and a drawing for the Baltimore Album quilt, "Floral Splendor". We want to thank the MANY Patchwork and Pies customers who contributed a small quilt for this project. Be sure to stop here and buy a raffle ticket for the quilt, and put November 9 on your schedule and plan to attend the auction. **THE RAFFLE QUILT AND MANY OF THE SMALL QUILTS WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT PATCHWORK AND PIES ON OCTOBER 24, 25 AND 26.** The Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance is an organization dedicated to providing support, information and personal advocacy for women faced with breast cancer.

Patchwork and Pies Newsletter Fall 1996

Quilt auction benefits breast cancer alliance

By FRANKLIN CRAWFORD
Journal Staff

ITHACA — Until two years ago, there were no area services to help women diagnosed with breast cancer or their loved ones.

Today, the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance has grown into a one-of-a-kind service and has provided more than 100 women with information and direct support while referring more than 435 callers to doctors, practitioners and treatment centers.

To ensure the continued growth of the agency, a collaborative fund-raising effort titled "Quilted With Care" is underway. Small handmade works are being donated by community quilters for an auction to benefit the alliance.

The response is unbeliev-

able," said Casey Carr, an event co-chairwoman. "We probably have 65 quilts by now and we only expected to have 40."

That number could top 100 by auction time in November.

However, silent bids will be taken as early as Aug. 8 in the Wegmans supermarket at 600 S. Meadow St., where about 25 quilts can be previewed.

Final bidding takes place Nov. 9 at the Women's Community Building during a gala event featuring quilts, of course, and entertainment, food and a drawing for the stunning quilt titled, "Floral Splendor."

"The love of quilt making is a common thread that runs through many women's lives," said Brigid Hubberman, co-chairwoman for Quilted With



SHERYL D. SINGOW/Special to the Journal

STITCHED WITH CARE: Eleanor Abbott of Brooktondale designed this piece for the "Quilted With Care" auction for the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

Care. "So is the fear of breast cancer."

The alliance is the only area agency dedicated to helping women deal with breast cancer through services, including a trained team of "buddies," who provide transportation, support and a 24-hour hotline.

It also publishes a quarterly newsletter that reaches 700

members, said Anne McLaughlin, the group's coordinator of direct services. Staff responded to 300 hotline calls in the agency's first 19 months.

"We try to encompass all the services a woman would need when she's going through this, not just one aspect, but the whole array of issues," McLaughlin said.

IS- 5/13/96

Quilters sew for cancer fight

ITHACA — The Tompkins County Quilters Guild and The Women's Community Building invite area quilters to make small quilts to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

The quilts will be auctioned off at "Quilted With Care," a special gala event to be held at the Women's Community Building Nov. 9.

Quilters may pick up additional details and register to make a quilt at The Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St., Quilters Corner at Community Corners, or Patchwork and Pies in McLean.

For more information call auction chairperson Casey Carr at 257-3431.

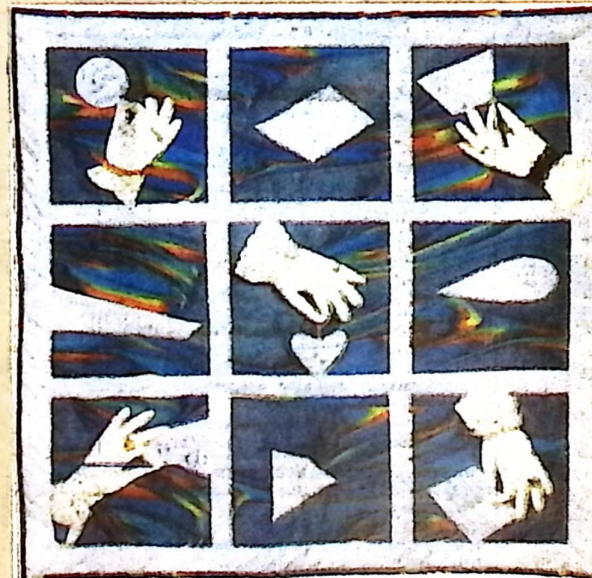
IS- 7/31/96



ART-SCIENCE STUDIO LAB/Special to The Journal

'SPRING FLOWER BASKET': This work was made by Enid Zollweg and quilted by Mary Carver. Zollweg was inspired by the courage of her sister — a breast cancer survivor — to make the quilt. The flower basket was inspired by a similar basket on a card her sister sent her. The pattern for the border is called 'Sister Star.'

'KOREA-OCTOBER': (On the cover) This design by Liese Bronfenbrenner was inspired by an autumn visit to a mountainous region of South Korea. The wide band of colors on the left represents maple, ginkgo and persimmon trees as their leaves and fruit swirl across the October landscape.



ART-SCIENCE STUDIO LAB/Special to The Journal

'HANDED DOWN': Ariel Alberga-Martin machine pieced this quilt, then used applique, calligraphy and embroidery for embellishment. "For years I have been collecting quotations, as did my mother before me," the artist says. "The quotes, poems, words of fun and wisdom are handed down from generation to generation." The quotes — with additional ones on the back of the quilt — come from the Bible, poets, song writers and world leaders, among other sources.

QUILTED WITH CARE

Wegmans ■ Through Aug. 31

QUILTED With Care will be accepting silent bids starting this weekend at the first preview at Wegmans on Elmira Road. The quilts up for auction will be displayed throughout the community until final bids at a Nov. 9 gala.

The love of quilt making is a common thread that runs through many women's lives; so is the fear of breast cancer. The two come together as quilters in the community make small quilts to be auctioned off to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

Fifty-five beautiful quilts have already been donated. One hundred quilts are expected before the Nov. 9 final bidding. Donations are welcome until Oct. 22. All proceeds will go to the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

If making a quilt, follow these rules:

■ Size is not to exceed 40 inches in length or width.

■ Any style of quilt is welcome.

■ Drop off quilts at Quilter's Corner, Community Corners, and Patchwork and Pies, McLean.

Both quilt shops will give a 20 percent discount on fabric to be used to make a small quilt for the auction.

Don't forget to experience the preview of the gala event the next time you are doing your grocery shopping.

For more information, call Casey Carr at 257-3431 or Brigid Hubberman at 277-6065.

□



Ithaca Journal
Arts & Leisure
7/5/96



Pyramid Mall
August 1996



Lisa Turner
Mary Ellen Hawker
June Silberman



SHERYL BINKOW

Hand-appliqued by IBCA member Judi Heath, this block is the centerpiece of "Floral Splendor," the quilt made by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild to be raffled off to benefit IBCA.

Two Quilt Events to Benefit IBCA

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild is very generously directing their efforts this year toward creating two special projects to support the work of IBCA. They have created a stunning Baltimore album-style quilt, named "Floral Splendor" for its nine different breath-taking floral blocks. This unique quilt will be raffled off to benefit IBCA, and it is sure to draw many compliments and sell many raffle tickets.

IBCA will be making every effort to display the "Floral Splendor" quilt at various locations and events in Tompkins County during the next several months. (Call IBCA after July for location details.) IBCA is counting on our members to help us with this wonderful

(continues on page 7)

Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance
Summer 1996 newsletter

Quilt Events (continued from page 1)

fundraising opportunity. If you are able to help IBCA by selling quilt raffle tickets to friends and co-workers, staffing a quilt raffle table, or suggesting a location to display this spectacular quilt, please call us or complete and return the volunteer form on page 3.

And, as if one beautiful quilt were not enough, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building are co-sponsoring "Quilted with Care," a silent auction of many small quilts, which will also benefit IBCA. Individual quiltmakers throughout Tompkins County are contributing small quilts, no single side to exceed 40 inches. These small quilts will be displayed at various locations around Ithaca during the weeks before the auction date. If you would like to make a quilt for the auction, call Casey Carr at 257-3431 or Brigid Hubberman at 277-6065 for entry details. Deadline for completed quilts is October 8, 1996.

The "Floral Splendor" quilt raffle and the "Quilted with Care" silent auction of small quilts will culminate in a special gala event at the Women's Community Building on Saturday, November 9th. It will be a wonderful opportunity to see and bid on all the lovely quilts, help IBCA, and thank the many quilters who have put so much effort into making this event possible.

*the Tompkins County Quilters Guild
and
the Women's Community Building
Invite you to join us for:*



***Quilted With Care~The Gala Event
with 100 small quilts for final auction
to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance***

Saturday, November 9

Entertainment 1-3 pm

Margaret Wakeley Harris ~ Nothing But Treble

Dessert Showcase 1-3 pm

Specialties from area caterers and restaurants

Final Bidding 3-5 pm

Peggy Haine~Guest Auctioneer

Verbal bid-off starting with quilt #1 at 3pm

"Floral Splendor" Quilt Drawing 5 pm

Women's Community Bldg., 100 W.Seneca St., Ithaca, N.Y.

~ donation at door ~

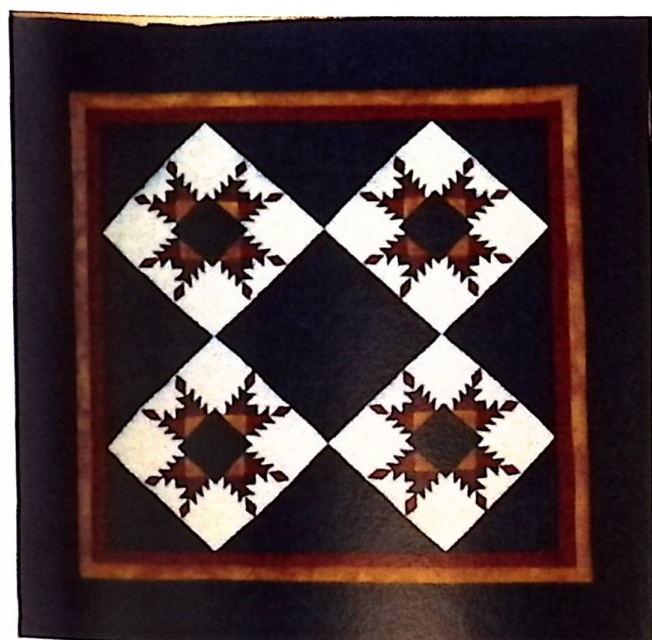
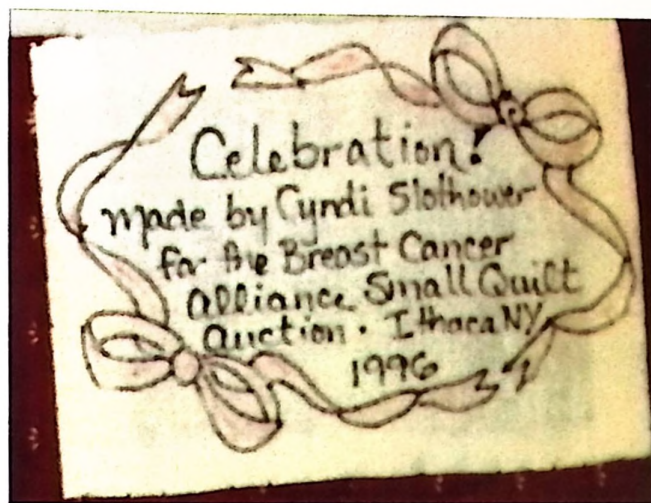
Special support from: *Kinko's*

Information: 273-3932

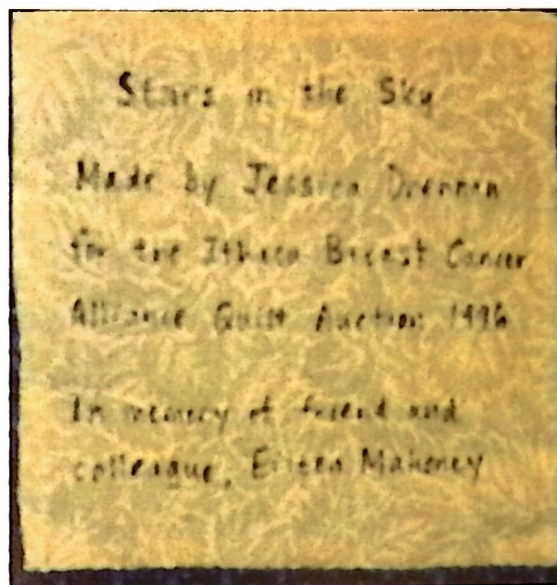
Three of the Donated Quilts



"Celebration"
by Cyndi Slothower



"Stars in the Sky"
by Jessica Drennan



"Pansies and Primroses"
by Denise Lentini

Downtown Ithaca Apple Harvest Festival



ART-SCIENCE STUDIO LAB/Special to The Journal

Quilts decorate for a cause

SEVENTY-FIVE small quilts bring warmth and special beauty to store window displays on and around The Commons, and in the DeWitt Mall, as part of Quilt Walk, a feature of Downtown's Apple Harvest Festival.

From contemporary to traditional, from whimsical to fancy, area quilt makers have used an incredible array of patterns and techniques to create these special quilted treasures.

The small quilts were donated especially for Quilted With Care, an auction of small quilts to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

Quilts on and around The Commons can be bid on at Homespun Boutique. Quilts in the DeWitt Mall can be bid on at the Cat's Pajamas.

Final bidding (verbal bid) on the small quilts will be Saturday, Nov. 9, from 3-5 p.m. at the Women's Community Building at the Quilted With Care gala event, which begins at 1 p.m.

This benefit auction is a collaborative effort of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building. The Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance is an organization dedicated to providing support, information and personal advocacy for women of

Quilt locations

■ **The Ithaca Commons & DeWitt Mall** — Quilts on display in store fronts through Oct. 12;

■ **Quilt Show in the Loft** — Holleys on The Commons, through Oct. 21;

■ **Selection of Auction Quilts** — Alternatives Federal Credit Union, W. State St.; Oct. 8-31;

■ **Auction Quilts** — Wegmans, Meadow St.; Oct. 14- Nov. 6;

■ **Selection of Auction Quilts** ■ **'Floral Splendor'** — Patchwork and Pies, The Square, McLean; Oct. 24-26.

Tompkins County faced with breast cancer.

In addition, quilt lovers won't want to miss The Quilt Show in the Loft at Holley's on The Commons, featuring a wide array of quilts on loan from the many members of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

IS - 10/96
Arts + Leisure

TODAY'S BEST BET



QUILT FUND-RAISER — There's still time to bid on small quilts offered in an auction to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. The quilts will be on display at Wegmans until Sept. 3. In addition, a special "Quilted with Care" display opens at Pyramid Mall today and will be on display until Sunday. At the mall, a Baltimore album-style quilt, "Floral Splendor," will be raffled. All proceeds from the raffle and the silent auction benefit the IBCA.

IS - 8/96 Arts + Leisure

'Autumn Basket,'
made by Heather Chwazik
and is one of the quilts up for
bid. It's in Artifax Gallery.



Quilted With Care

An auction of small quilts to benefit
the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance

With appreciation for your generosity, the
Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance invites you to a

Quilter's Reception

Join us **Friday Evening, November 8**

from **5:00 - 7:00 pm**

at the **Women's Community Building
100 W. Seneca St. Ithaca, N.Y.**

Come and be surrounded by 100 beautiful small quilts as we:

~ Honor the many quilt-makers

~ Enjoy savory edibles

~ Celebrate with new friends and old

We hope to see you there! For more information call IBCA at 277-9410.

Quilted With Care-The Gala Event will be November 9, 1-5 pm at the Women's
Community Bldg. with final (verbal) bidding on the quilts beginning at 3 pm.

QUILTED WITH CARE

Mark your calendar for Quilted With Care, the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance's Auction of Small Quilts on Saturday, November 9! The Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building are sponsoring this auction to support the IBCA in its invaluable work. The Quilters Guild is also making a raffle quilt, a gorgeous and original 64" Baltimore Album style quilt. Tickets are available at Quilters Corner.

Quilted With Care culminates on November 9 at the Women's Community Building. The day begins with a show of the quilts and silent bidding from 10-noon. The Gala Celebration, with entertainment, food, final bidding, and raffle drawing, is from 1-5.

Over 100 pieces, in every conceivable style, are expected for the auction. What a great opportunity to pick up beautiful quilts for your own home or for holiday gifts and to support this fine organization at the same time.

It's not too late to make something for the Quilted With Care auction; quilts are being accepted through October 22. For details, visit Quilters Corner, or call Casey Carr at 257-3431 or Bridgid Hubberman at 277-6065

Quilters Corner Newsletter Fall 1996



Quilted With Care – The Gala Event

100 small quilts for final auction to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance

Entertainment 1-3pm
Margaret Wakeley Harris— Nothing But Treble

Dessert Showcase 1-3pm
Enjoy specialties from area caterers and restaurants.

Final Bidding 3-5pm
Peggy Haine-Guest Auctioneer
Verbal bid-off starting with quilt #1

Floral Splendor 5pm
Drawing of the beautiful quilt featured to the left.

Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca Street, Ithaca • Donation at door • For more information call 273-3932

A special thanks to The Ithaca Journal for their support.

**Saturday
Nov. 9**

Quilts testify to breast cancer's impact

By MARGARET CLAIBORNE
Journal Staff

ITHACA — "Quilted with Care — The Gala Event," sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild at the Women's Community Building Saturday, will have something for the eyes, ears, tummy, and heart, says organizer Bridgid Hubberman.

Beginning at 10 a.m., the public may view the quilts in the auditorium of the center. From 1-3 p.m. they can feast on desserts and fresh fruits from a buffet supplied by 20 caterers and restaurants while listening to songs by local singers. And from 3-5 p.m. they can bid on the quilts. Proceeds from the event will go to the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

The auditorium of the Women's Community Building will be resplendent, Hubberman said. The event's signature, a 63-inch by 44-inch quilt called "Floral Splendor," will have pride of place on the stage of the auditorium. Designed by quilter Elsie Denton, it features squares with six stylized flower designs in dark red and green on a white by six women. The quilt will be raffled at 5 p.m. — at 5 p.m.

The walk of the auditorium will be adorned with 120 small quilts to be auctioned beginning at 3 p.m. Coherent singer Margaret Wakeley Harris and the Cornell Music Society's a cappella group "Nothing But Treble" will take the stage from 1-3 p.m., followed by Peggy Haine, who will conduct the auc-



BILL WARREN/Journal Staff

FLOWER QUILT: "Spring Flower Basket" by Enid Zoltweg is one of many quilts that were on display at Wegmans at 600 S. Meadow St. this week. The quilts will be auctioned off Saturday in a benefit for the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

tion for the small quilts.

For weeks, the public has been able to write bids in booklets attached to the quilts on display at various stores, at Wegmans, and finally at the Women's Community Building. The verbal auction will begin with the highest bid in each booklet.

Hubberman explained why the Tompkins County Quilters Guild decided to sponsor the benefit for the Ithaca Breast

Cancer Alliance: "The love of quilt-making and the fear of breast cancer are common threads that run through many women's lives," she said. The life of every woman who has contributed a quilt to the gala has been touched by breast cancer in some way, she said.

The quilters explained how an information sheet they filled out to go with the quilts they made. Some samples:

Quilt auction

- **What:** Quilted With Care — The Gala Event: a quilt show, auction and raffle
- **When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday
- **Where:** The Women's Community Building, 100 W. Seneca St., Ithaca
- **Purpose:** To benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance
- **Admission:** Free; donations accepted at the door; quilt raffle tickets, \$1; auction of small quilts, 3-5 p.m.

■ "As an operating room nurse, I come face to face with breast cancer on an almost daily basis — happy are the days that all the biopsies come back from the lab labeled 'negative.'"

■ "Breast cancer has affected me indirectly in that I do not have a mother-in-law and my daughters do not have a paternal grandmother and my husband only had a mother for four years. His mother died of breast cancer as a young woman."

■ "This small school-house quilt is in memory of my sister-in-law, an elementary school teacher, who died in 1986 at age 39 of breast cancer."

■ "I was very close to my sister and feel the loss to this day. Her death has helped me keep what's important in life — and what's not — in perspective."



SHERYL D. SINKOV, ART-SCIENCE STUDIO/IAS/ Special to The Journal

QUILTED WITH CARE GALA

Women's Community Building ■ Saturday

JOIN the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance at the Women's Community Building this Saturday for special entertainment, delicious desserts, a chance to win the magnificent "Floral Splendor" quilt and final bidding on more than 110 small quilts.

It's all part of Quilted With Care: The Gala Event, a festive evening and auction to benefit breast cancer research.

Entertainment will be provided by Margaret Wakeley Harris, intimate cabaret-style, and Nothing But Treble, a women's a cappella singing group. A dessert showcase will feature desserts from area caterers and restaurants.

Throughout American history, women have stitched their lives into quilts. So it is today. These quilts were sewn with love and quilted with care, donated in an incredible outpouring from area women.

The quilts are their voices; they speak of

loved ones lost to the struggle and hope for the future. And finally, they speak with support and admiration for the women of our community affected by breast cancer who are willing to give of themselves so that the blow that breast cancer strikes might be lessened for the next woman.

Quilted With Care is sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the Women's Community Building, with support from many businesses and organizations in the community.

For more information on the auction, call Bridgid Hubberman at 277-6065 or Brynne Sing at 273-3112.

Quilters raised \$27,000

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild raised \$27,000 Nov. 9 to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

Guild members and others quilted 122 small quilts that were auctioned off at "Quilted With Care, The Gala Event" at the Women's Community Building. The benefit took more than two years to plan, said Andi Gladstone, director of the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

The highest bid, \$575, went to Enid Zollweg's "Spring Flower Basket."

Ithacan Kathy Luz bought the winning raffle ticket for "Floral Splendor," a full-sized quilt that represented more than 1,000

quilting hours by members of the guild who quilted the squares. Raffle tickets netted the guild \$8,600. Luz said she considered herself the caretaker of the quilt and that she would be proud to have the guild or Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance use it in community events.

Women who contributed quilts to the auction wrote notes explaining how cancer had touched their lives. Many were breast cancer survivors. The last quilt to be contributed to the auction arrived at the Women's Community building just minutes before the auction began. It depicted Isis, the Goddess of Healing.

Everybody's a Winner

by Kathy Herrera

When I entered the grocery store that day I intended to buy only groceries. At the checkout, the aisles were decorated with magnificent quilts made by members of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. The bright colors and beautiful fabrics were calling to me. While waiting in line, I admired them and talked about them with my fellow shoppers. "It's the 'Quilted With Care' fund-raiser for the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance," I was told. "You can write down a silent bid for any quilt you like, or go to the auction in November." The more I looked, the more fascinated I became. I discovered that the quilts would also be on display at various shops on the Commons. I wanted to inspect the color combinations, the fabrics, the artful stitching, and the amazing designs. I wanted to see those quilts up close. On the Commons in October, the quilts looked better than ever, and when the shopkeepers told me the auction was November 9, I knew I would be at that auction.

Quilting is finally being recognized as an art form. Fabric art, whether sewn by hand or by machine, can be infinitely varied, and is filled with the personality of the artist. It was a brilliant idea to utilize the love and appreciation of quilting as a vehicle to support women with breast cancer. People express their feelings through quilting. The "Quilted With Care" auction allowed the Ithaca community to express support for quilting as art, and for the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. The auction was also an opportunity to

express our feelings about the effects of breast cancer on our lives, and the lives of our loved ones.

At the Women's Community Building on November 9, there was proof that the community had taken the fund raiser to heart. The room was filled with excitement, with people who supported the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance, and with quilts. By the day of the auction, the number of quilts donated had risen to 122! Everywhere I looked there was visible evidence of support for women battling this disease. For too long the struggle has taken place in silence and isolation. I was moved as I saw breast cancer survivors and their families looking at quilt after quilt, with tears in their eyes.

As the auction drew to a close, Peggy Haine, our lovely and talented auctioneer, cajoled people to buy more chances on *Floral Splendor*, the beautiful 64" x 64" heirloom quilt that was to be raffled off as the grand prize. Designed by local graphic artist and quilter Elsie P. L. Dentes, the Baltimore Album Style Appliqué quilt required over 1,000 hours of hand stitching and hand appliqué.

October Is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

If you haven't had breast cancer, you probably know someone who has, because this widespread disease has affected so many lives. The following stories show how quilters are helping to comfort those stricken with breast cancer.

Ithaca, New York... Quilted With Care, a small-quilt auction sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, raised \$18,000 for the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. Quilter Brigid Hubberman, one of the organizers of the event, says that hundreds of quilters participated in making 122 auction quilts for the Alliance, which provides support and information for breast cancer patients.

"It's the benefits reaped behind the scenes that made this event even more special," Brigid says. "The project succeeded in connecting people in a caring way. I hope that the common thread of the fear of breast cancer and the love of quilting will bring Quilted With Care to other communities."



PHOTO BY SHERYL D. SANCHEZ

FLORAL SPLENDOR, 64" x 64", designed by Elsie Dentes of Ithaca, New York, and made by members of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, was raffled at a small-quilt auction to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. The raffle raised \$9,000.

QJM #296 Oct. 1997

My partner and I had purchased two of the small quilts, and I had spent all my money, but not before I remembered to buy a couple of chances on the big quilt. I considered myself lucky to witness the event and be a small part of it. Then Peggy called my name as the winner of *Floral Splendor*. My jaw dropped. People hugged me and shook my hand, as I looked at the quilt in awe. It was a delight to think of that quilt, that symbol of empowerment, at my house.

I wasted no time in telling the members of the Quilters Guild that I consider the quilt to be on loan to me from the community. Some-thing so powerful and inspired will give strength and support to the cause when it is shared and publicly displayed. And it still gets to live at my house! Well, I've got to go now. I've signed up for a beginner quilting class at Quilter's Corner so I can contribute to the *next* fundraiser.

The above article appeared in the March Issue of *FaCES*, the Cornell University Facilities Publication.

COMMON THREADS

Like quilting, breast cancer runs through many women's lives. One upstate New York community has connected these common threads and produced a successful fund-raising event.

BY DIANE LEBOW WALLACE

When Brigid Hubberman of Ithaca, New York, rallied quilting makers to support Ithaca's Breast Cancer Alliance, no one realized just how powerful their tiny stitches would become.

"We originally hoped the event would raise at least \$1,000, then dreamed of \$5,000, and later boldly predicted its raising \$10,000," said Andi Gladstone, director of the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

After the 122 small quilts had been auctioned and the last raffle ticket sold, "Quilted with Care" had in fact raised a remarkable \$27,000. In addition, this high-profile effort had brought IBCA an unprecedented visibility throughout the community, especially among women who might benefit from its services.

"The quilts were so attractive we opened doors for us to talk with a great number of women about breast cancer," says Anne McLaughlin, a breast cancer survivor who directs client services for Ithaca's Breast Cancer Alliance. "People are naturally drawn to the warmth of quilts, and that helps make this women's health issue more approachable."

To coordinator Brigid Hubberman, the project "...seemed a natural



ABOVE: The walls were lined with small quilts and the crowd enjoyed every moment.



ABOVE: Andi Gladstone of IBCA gives warm thanks to the crowd.

combination. The love of quilting is a common thread that runs through many women's lives. So is the fear of breast cancer."

Hubberman had presented this fund-raiser idea to Ithaca's Tompkins County Quilter's Guild, which became the event's chief sponsor. In addition, the guild created a raffle quilt called "Floral Splendor" with an original Baltimore Album design by graphic artist Elsie Dentes, a guild member.

A community-wide "Quilted with Care" gala event was planned, with entertainment, a dessert showcase, a drawing for the quilt raffle, and remarks by members of the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance. As the gala auction approached, the guild coordinated displays of incoming quilts and a silent auction at area businesses, festivals, a retirement center, and even a large grocery store. In November all 122 quilts came together for a stunning exhibit and final auction.

They were traditional, contemporary, reflective, witty, whimsical—the number and array of quilts revealed a spirited network of quilters who love their craft. Collectively they incorporated an exciting range of new and old techniques.

Among participating quilting makers breast cancer all too often had already touched a loved one, a family

COMMON THREADS

member, or themselves. Several individuals chose to make quilts in memory of friends and family members who had been claimed by breast cancer. Some quilters chose to honor the courage of breast cancer survivors.

Quilter Margaret Day, who sewed a quilt in memory of a sister who had battled breast cancer for eight years, commented: "I selected a classic pattern, Tree of Life, because of the name—to suggest hope and to honor all the courageous women who have faced this awful disease. They are not forgotten."

Cheryl Thurston, who sings out, "I quilt, therefore I am!" paper-pieced a schoolhouse block to remember her sister-in-law, a former elementary school teacher, who died from breast cancer at the age of 39.

SPRING FLOWER BASKET was made by Enid Zollweg to celebrate her sister's courage. Having trouble choosing a border, Enid knew her search was completed when she discovered a pattern called "Sister Star."

Even after the gala event was over, stories about the quilts continued. KOREA - OCTOBER, Liese



ABOVE: SPRING FLOWER BASKET, 36" x 36", appliquéd & pieced by Enid Zollweg, hand quilted by Mary Carver.



LEFT: KOREA - OCTOBER, 20" x 14", Liese Bronfenbrenner. The design was inspired by an antique quilt in a mountainous region of South Korea where maple, ginkgo, and persimmon leaves and fruit colored across the October landscape.

Bronfenbrenner's exquisite quilt of autumn leaves swirling across the Korean landscape, was purchased by a woman who had attended that very day a supportive retreat for breast cancer survivors. The buyer adopted the quilt to commemorate her daughter's fight against breast cancer which had been lost during the month of October.

Quilters have long known that in addition to being therapy for the heart and soul, quilting can also help neighbors and communities. More and more, quilters nationwide are putting their craft to work by raising funds for community causes or calling attention to social needs.

People in communities quilt for their churches, community centers, and social service organizations. In Ithaca, quilting makers found a natural connection between breast cancer, primarily a women's disease, and quilting, primarily a women's art form.

As Hubberman emphasizes, "Networks of quilters are already in place throughout the country. Their skills and concern have been and will continue to be valuable community resources." ■

Diane Lebow Wallace is a writer in Ithaca, NY. At an early age she learned nearly every needleart except quilting from her mother and grandmother. Although she grew up surrounded by many family heirloom quilts, it was Ithaca's "Quilted With Care" project that inspired her, at long last, to learn the art of quilting.



ABOVE: POMEGRANATE, 21" x 41", Elzanne Abbott.

PHOTOS: GARY WILSON & JILL HOLLAND
MELISSA B. WILSON, ITHACA, NY

American Quilter
Spring 1998

October 8, 1997

Dear Brynne,
I'm sure you know an article about Quilted with Care will appear in an upcoming issue of American Quilter magazine. As the author I would like to give half my payment to the guild for future service projects. The remainder I have donated to IBCA.

Best wishes

Diane Lebow Wallace

The Quilted With Care auction and raffle culminated on November 9 at the Women's Community Building in Ithaca. Local quilters donated a total of 122 small quilts to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance (IBCA). The small quilts lined the walls of the large room while the raffle quilt, "Floral Splendor", took center stage. Cafe tables and a dessert banquet (donated by local stores and restaurants) contributed to the gala atmosphere, as did the banter from auctioneer Peggy Haines. The standing-room-only audience obviously appreciated the efforts of the many volunteers, and the cause for which they worked. Bids climbed as the exquisite small quilts went under the gavel. When all was said and done, over \$17,000 was raised by the small quilts! "Floral Splendor", after raising \$8,600 in raffle tickets, went to Ithacan Kathy Luz, who was present when her name was drawn. What a moment! She said she considers herself the caretaker of the quilt, and hopes that it can be used for community events. As if that wasn't enough excitement, we understand that over \$700 was raised in donations at the door, bringing the day's total to more than \$27,000. This money will allow long-range planning for IBCA. Our admiration goes to Brigid Hubberman, the wild woman who dreamed up this event, to her committee, Brynne Sigg and Casey Carr, who acted when she said "I have an idea", to Elsie Dentes, designer of the breath-taking "Floral Splendor", to the quilters who put in 1000 hours creating the raffle quilt, and all those who donated small quilts and made the event possible. The Tompkins County Quilter's Guild, the Women's Community Building, Quilters Corner and IBCA extend their thanks to all who participated. It was one of the most moving events that we've ever witnessed in Ithaca.

Quilters Corner Newsletter
Winter 1997

Quilted With Care

On Saturday, Nov. 9, this community came together with talent and generosity for the Quilted With Care Gala Event to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance (IBCA).

This event, which was over two years in the making, was created by Brigid Hubberman and realized through thousands of volunteer hours by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, other quilters, IBCA volunteers, local businesses and breast cancer survivors.

With standing-room-only in a filled-to-capacity auditorium at the Women's Community Building, the walls were covered with 122 exquisite small quilts while the beautiful Floral Splendor raffle quilt took center stage. The day was filled with music, entertainment, an unending banquet of desserts donated by 15 local restaurants, the wonderful Peggy Haine as auctioneer and many, many teary-eyed members of the IBCA, a little stunned at the turnout.

This is a one-time-only event which we originally hoped would raise at least \$1,000 for the Alliance, then \$5,000, and then, by mid-September, we boldly predicted it would raise \$10,000 and significantly help to secure IBCA services for 1997.

In fact, this incredible event raised \$27,000 for the IBCA. Because the Alliance has no ongoing outside funding, this event has, for the first time since we began in January 1994, made it possible for us to have a two-year plan for services.

This means everything to us, to our program, and to the people that we serve.

Beyond fund-raising, Quilted With Care has done more outreach for IBCA and for the importance of the issue of breast cancer than we would have been able to do in years by ourselves. Thank you to every single person in this community who participated in Quilted With Care.

It has touched many people deeply, and we at the IBCA are extremely grateful and honored to be the recipients of such generosity and concern.

Andi Gladstone
For the IBCA, Nov. 13

Ithaca Journal
November 18, 1996



Presenting Melissa Fowler's president's gift. Holding it is Lisa Turner. To right are Enid Zollweg and Judi Heath.

Casowasco Fall 1996



Donna Hall



Elsie Dentes (front)
Jane Converse (back)



Mrs. Downey
Alanna's mother



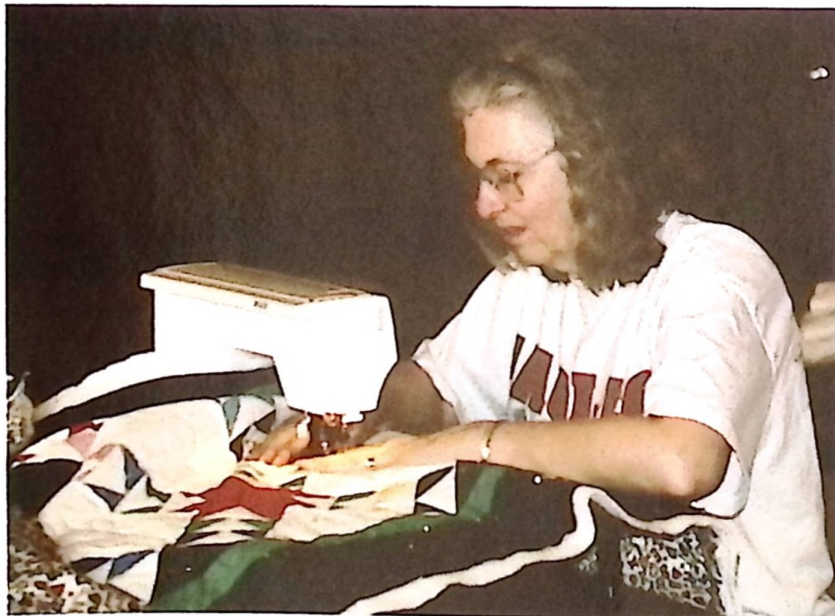
Alanna Fontanella



Polly Gutelius



Ann Zinsmeister



Judi Heath



Hilary Ford

Brigid Hubberman Honored at Annual Dinner

On Tuesday, March 18, Brigid Hubberman was recognized as a *Woman Making History* by our Guild. At an annual dinner held by the Federation of Women's Clubs, 16 women were honored by their individual organizations for making a difference in our community. Lisa Turner, Lillian Love and Hilary Ford from our Guild were there to support Brigid and to appreciate the other women's accomplishments.

Following is our recognition of Brigid (we were strictly limited in the number of words and so this salute is much too brief!)

A woman who combines a great love of quilting with a rare community commitment, Brigid has brought people together to make quilts and raise funds for the Cayuga Nature Center, United Way, and many nursery and elementary classes. While the assistant Commons Coordinator, she initiated the Quilt Walk. Brigid's greatest inspiration was Quilted With Care, a project that raised \$27,000 for the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.

Nominated by FRCG



QUILTING TODAY - Issue 59 4/97

▼ "Radiant Nine Patch" (81" x 96") by Marie P. Witzel of Ithaca, New York.

The simple Nine Patch block takes on a whole new look with Marie's careful placement of colors and their values. From the light center to the dark borders, the arrangement of blocks is enhanced with an unusual quilting pattern—a large circular design with radiating spokes. This gives the quilt an energetic visual movement.

Ithacan Wins Quilt Raffle

Jim Rolfe of Ithaca was the winner of the "Good Earth" quilt, raffled off on Earth Day, April 22, with proceeds benefiting Sciencecenter exhibits and programs. We thank the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, which donated the quilt.

Sciencecenter News
Summer 1997 Issue

Dinner honors 16 giving women

By JOE WILENSKY
Journal Staff

IITHACA — Sixteen women were honored Tuesday night at the City Federation of Women's Organizations' Sixth Annual Women Making History dinner.

Many of the federation's 20 member organizations nominated women for recognition — from the La Leche League and the Women's Republican Club of Tompkins County to the Ithaca Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Task Force.

Nancy McKittrick thanked the participating groups at the dinner, which was held at the Women's Community Building. "They've made history and they're continuing to make history," she said.

Lauren Austin, director of the Tompkins County Human Rights Commission, delivered the keynote speech, "Superwomen and Wonderwomen." She spoke of her lifetime love of quilting, which she learned as a girl by watching her grandmother and her friends quilt and talk about life.

Austin spoke of the excellence of the "improvisational quilts" despite the oppression faced by generations of African-American women.

While famous African-American women — "superwomen" such as Harriet Tubman — are often thought of first as the sym-

Women Making History winners

The recipients of the 1997 Women Making History Dinner awards with the organization that nominated them:

- Jane Marcham, Ithaca Downtown Business Women.
- Diane Wiessinger, La Leche League
- Cassie Rankin and Jessica Fuller, the Seven Lakes Girl Scouts Council
- Jane Jones, City Federation of Women's Organizations
- Connie Repe, American Association of University Women
- Elaine Nelson, Ithaca Woman's Club
- Sue Rochman, Ithaca Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Task Force
- Amy Bernard, Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El
- Betty Lewis, Zonta Club
- Joan Barber, League of Women Voters
- Carol Malkson, Ithaca Business and Professional Women
- Jemma Macera, The Writer's Association
- Brigid Hubberman, Tompkins County Quilters Guild
- Dorothy Sellers, The Service League
- Lois Peter, Women's Republican Club of Tompkins County

bols of black feminine strength. Austin urged listeners to "think about the women who are not the symbols ... I think of my grandmother and her friends around that (quilting) frame."

When Austin tells people she quilts, many are surprised, she said. But when she tells Latina and African-American women that she quilts, "they say, 'Oh, that's good — we need you to do that.'"

The contrast is astounding, she said. "How do we improve the communication between these two worlds?" she asked. "The

world I live in has much to contribute to the quilt as a whole."

Each woman honored at the dinner was introduced by a representative of the organization that had nominated her. "She is a woman whose deeds follow her words," Linda Myers of the Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El said of honoree Amy Bernard. "Her belief in the dignity of the human spirit empowers all of us," Dieder Yavorosky of the Ithaca Business and Professional Women said of honoree Joan Barber.

Guild Members in the News

Introducing: Two teachers you have to meet... ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄ ❄

Speaking of spring and new beginnings, you may have heard ALYCE ANDERSON, our teacher for embellishment techniques, crowing that she'll soon be a grandma for the first time. Her daughter's child will of course have a wonderful baby quilt made by grandma. Alyce is also preparing for her son's wedding in July. We're pleased that she finds the time to teach for us with all that excitement. Alyce has been sewing clothes since she was in her teens and has a degree in Art Ed. But it wasn't until the early '90s when Alyce took a three day class from Sharee Dawn Roberts, that she discovered her current passion: free motion embroidery, couching and other decorative stitching. She mostly makes clothing and wallhangings, but be sure to look for her husband, Bob's, quilt in this Fall's Tompkins County Quilters Guild show. You'll see Alyce's trademark decorative machine stitching in lieu of quilting. She's an active member of the Quilters Corner Bernina Fan Club, the Tompkins County Quilters Guild and the local Textile Guild. The Textile Guild especially stretches her to be more innovative and creative. Take a class from Alyce, and you'll find that she does the same for you!

Another fan of machine work is ALANNA FONTANELLA. Alanna has hand pieced and appliqued only one quilt: a "Sun Bonnet Sue" that her mother began. She loved to look at the pieces of this quilt when she was a child, and found her way to quilting through her childhood love of antique quilts. This love led her to organize the local "Documentation Day" in the late '80's when New York quilts were being catalogued and documented. Over 400 quilts were studied in Tompkins County. Alanna is a past president of the Tompkins County Quilters Guild, and one of the former owners of our predecessor, Quilts 'N Things quilt shop in Varna, where many of you learned to quilt. Today, Alanna is a local organizer for the ABC Quilt Project: she provides kits to individuals and groups who want to make quilts for at-risk babies. She does a lot of teaching in this role, and especially loves working with children and senior citizens. We think Alanna must have some kind of record for machine sewn baby quilts. She finds them a manageable size to design, to sew, to 'get 'em done'. Not counting ABC quilts, she has made 25 for babies of family members and close friends. Her machine applique and machine quilting classes could launch you into your own productive frenzy!

Quilters Corner newsletter Spring 1997

Black History quilt
honoring African Americans in
NYS (1995)
by Patty Davis, Lillian Love,
Cynthia Schnedeker, Georgette
Sinkler



Non-Guild Selection Night 1997



Selection Committee -
Virginia Fenton, Denise Lentini, Sally Dutko



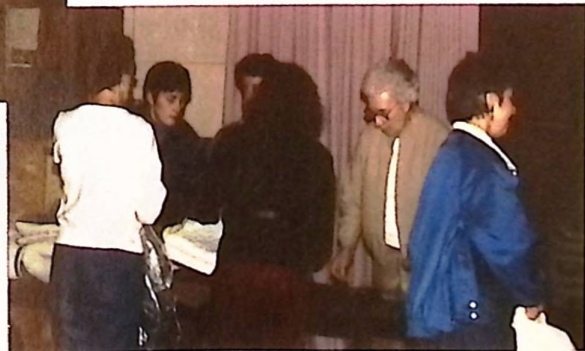
Checking quilt condition - Peggy Hill
June Nalis, Judi Heath



← ↑ Committee Looks at Quilts

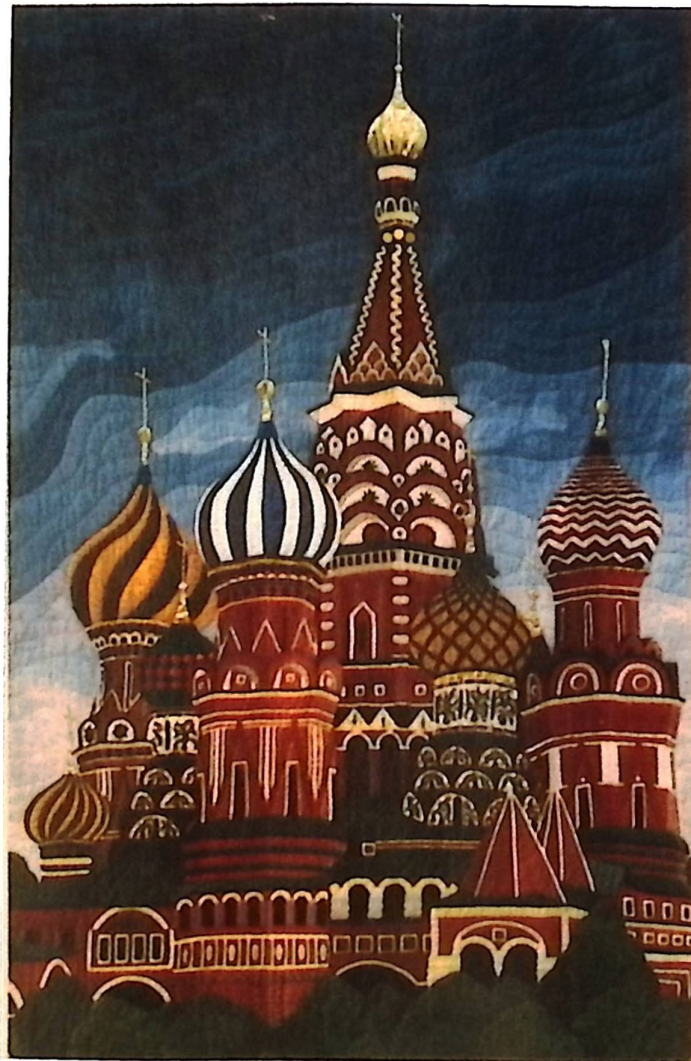


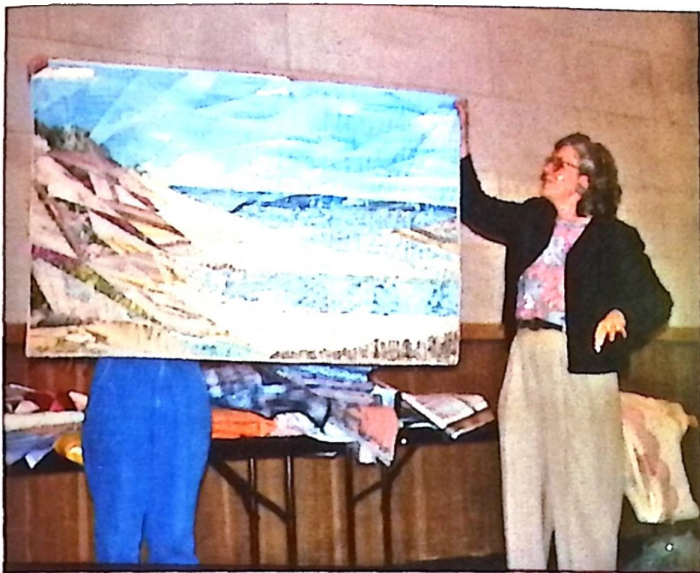
Waiting for Committee to see quilts



Releasing quilts to owners →

Ami Simms
Workshop
April 27, 1997





Mickey Lawler
Lecture
and
Workshop
May 13+14, 1997



Micleey Lawler
Work shop

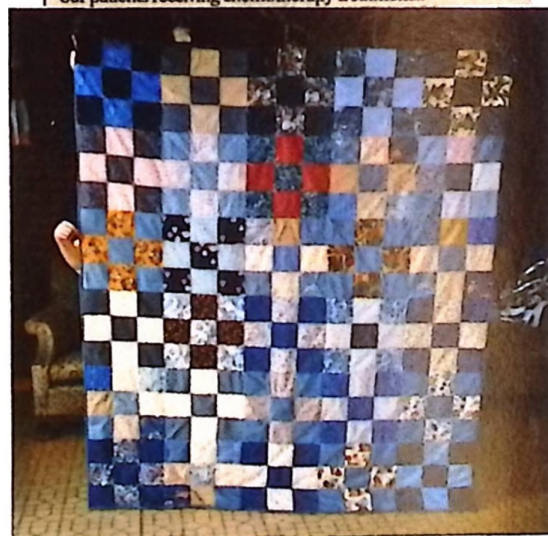


Unknown Quilts Show - part of
Johnson Museum show
↓



DARTS & LAURELS 15-5/24/97

LAUREL: From Dr. Charles Garbo to the Tompkins County Quilters' Guild: "I have great appreciation for the guild and especially to quilter Lori Coon for the beautiful quilt which was donated to our office. It will provide warmth, comfort and that extra measure of caring so important to our patients receiving chemotherapy treatments."



**Bank takes note of
local volunteers**
11-5/19/97

**Trust Co. will
give out annual
awards tonight**

By **KELLY A. ZITO**
Journal Staff

ITHACA — Seven local residents and two local groups will receive recognition today for making community service a part

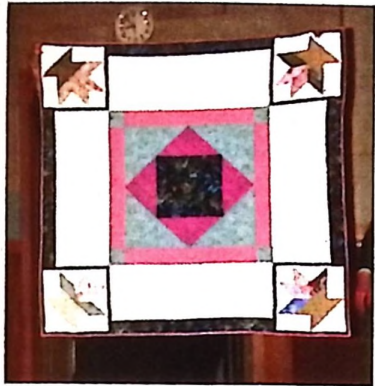
of their everyday lives. Tompkins County Trust Co.'s annual Awards for Excellence, which honor those who improve the quality of life in Ithaca through volunteerism, will be presented tonight to:
■ Bried Hubberman, for her work on "Quilted with Care," a benefit for the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance;

The Awards for Excellence program was developed by Tompkins County Trust Co. in 1986.

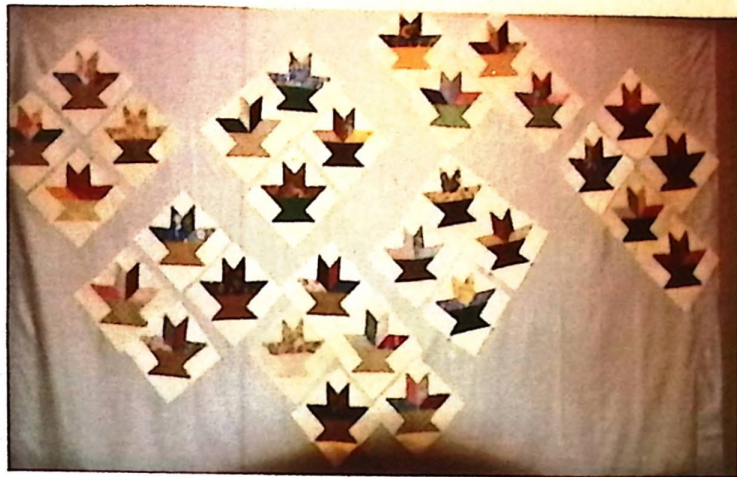
The awards, which this year amount to \$12,000, are funded by an endowment managed by the Tompkins County Foundation.

Since 1986, the bank has recognized 111 individuals or groups with awards totaling more than \$124,000.

A winner - June Nafis



Spring Basket Block Exchange - 5/97



Bronwyne Mohlke
← Baby quilt 1997

Vicki Shaff - 1997 →
Top donated by Judi Heath
quilted and assembled
by TCQG - presented to
Vicki (WEB receptionist)
following loss of trailer
by fire.



Janet Shea - "Nature's Tapestry"
Lecture - June 10, 1997





NY State Fair Award
Emily Koon 1997
"Bordeaux"

October 1997

Dear Members,

I am honored and most appreciative of your Tompkins County Award and check for my "Bordeaux" Quilt, exhibited at the N.Y. State Fair '97.

Your award promotes a standard of excellence for all quilters to strive for.

Thank you for your continued support to the fine art of quilting. Happy quilting to all of you!

Sincerely,

Emily Koon

5024 Martiseo Rd.
Marcellus NY 13108



HARVEST OF QUILTS blankets the Armory

■ Quilt, 'Two Friends with Pails,' made by Jessica Drennan, photo by SHERYL D. SINKOW

A HARVEST OF QUILTS

10-25/97
Arts & Leisure

National Guard Armory ■ Saturday and Sunday

THE Tompkins County Quilters Guild presents "A Harvest of Quilts," its 1997 biennial quilt show. Featuring a stunning display of over 200 antique and contemporary quilts, the popular show regularly draws quilt enthusiasts from across the United States and into Canada.

This year's quilt show, the group's 11th, will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the National Guard Armory, 1765 Hanshaw Road, Ithaca. General admission is \$3, \$2 for senior citizens and students.

TCQG has a reputation for putting on one of the finest quilt shows in the Northeast, which began with the first national gathering of quilt enthusiasts here during the 1976 bicentennial.

The bicentennial brought renewed appreciation for many

Many quilters still use needle and thread, as did generations of quilt makers before them. Others are drawn to the latest gadgets and techniques, and use the newest in sewing machine technology to create exquisite contemporary art pieces. Some are made for beds, many are for walls, and all bring warmth and beauty to homes and lives.

Join TCQG as they share this warmth and beauty at "A Harvest of Quilts."

Some of the "Harvest of Quilts" features will include a merchants mall — a quiltmaker's paradise of quilt books, patterns, supplies and fabric; exhibits featuring quilts created by guild members as the result of special group projects and classes; ABC quilts, made especially to be donated to babies at risk of HIV; a small quilt auction; and daily demon-

strations, where members of the guild will show all the newest gadgets and quilting techniques in demonstrations throughout the show.

There will also be a special showing of "Floral Splendor," the stunning Baltimore album quilt that was raffled in 1996 to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance.



Provided/TCQG

BOUNTIFUL PLATTER: "Harvest of Fruit," made by Kristen Thompson, is one of the quilts featured in this year's Tompkins County Quilters' Guild Harvest of Quilts Show.

Quilt Walk

August 15, 1997
For Immediate Release
Contact: Brigid Hubberman (607) 277-6065

Quilt Walk Blankets Downtown Ithaca during Apple Harvest Festival

Warm up for the harvest in downtown Ithaca with the annual Quilt Walk, featuring an abundance of quilts in window displays on and around the Commons pedestrian mall. The 50 stunning examples of this truly American art form can be enjoyed from September 15 to October 13.

From contemporary to traditional, from whimsical to fancy, quilt enthusiasts will delight in the wide array of patterns and techniques used by the many contributing quilters from the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

In addition to Quilt Walk, Apple Harvest Festival, October 3, 4, and 5 will feature special quilt events including: a hands on quilt project for children, quilt stories, demonstrations of quilt techniques and a community quilt making project to make Wrap-up and Read Quilts. This is in addition to the traditional Apple Harvest fare of apples, produce, baked goods, crafts and entertainment.

"You don't have to be under a quilt to feel its warmth!" says Brigid Hubberman coordinator for Quilt Walk.

For more information contact: Brigid Hubberman (607) 277-6065.

Publicity for Quilt Walk and special quilt events of Apple Harvest Festival is funded in part by funds administered by the Tompkins County Advisory Board on Tourism Development



August 15, 1997
For Immediate Release
Please use in your fall
and weekly calendars
Brigid Hubberman
607) 277-6065

Harvest of Quilts 1997

A Harvest of Quilts Comes to Rhona, New York, September 27 and 28

The Tompkins County Quilters Guild presents: A Harvest of Quilts, its 1997 biennial quilt show. Featuring a stunning display of over 200 antique and contemporary quilts, the popular show draws quilt enthusiasts from across the United States and into Canada.

This year's quilt show, the group's eleventh, will be held on Saturday, September 27 and Sunday, September 28 from 10am to 5pm, at the National Guard Armory, 1765 Hinzshaw Rd., Ithaca, N.Y.. General admission is \$3.00, admission for senior citizens and students is \$2.00.

TCQG has a reputation mounting one of the finest quilt shows in the Northeast, beginning with the first national gathering of quilt enthusiasts in during the 1976 biocentennial.

The biocentennial brought renewed appreciation for many American art forms including quilts. It was during this time that interest in making and enjoying quilts started to climb. That interest continues to explode, as increasing numbers of men and women step out of their fast paced lives to slow down and enjoy soothing and creative process of quilting.

Many quilters still use needle and thread, and exclusive handwork as generations of quilt makers before them. Others are drawn to the latest gadgets and techniques, and use the newest in sewing machine technology to create exquisite contemporary art pieces. Some are made for beds, many are for walls, all bring warmth and beauty to homes and lives.

Join us as we share that warmth and beauty at A Harvest of Quilts!

Harvest of Quilts 1997 - Special features include:

Over 200 Quilts on Display - Large and small, antique and contemporary.

Merchants Mall - A quilter's paradise of quilt books, patterns, supplies and of course, fabric.

Special Exhibits - Featuring quilts created by guild members as the result of special group projects and classes, and ABC quilts made especially to be donated to babies at risk of HIV.

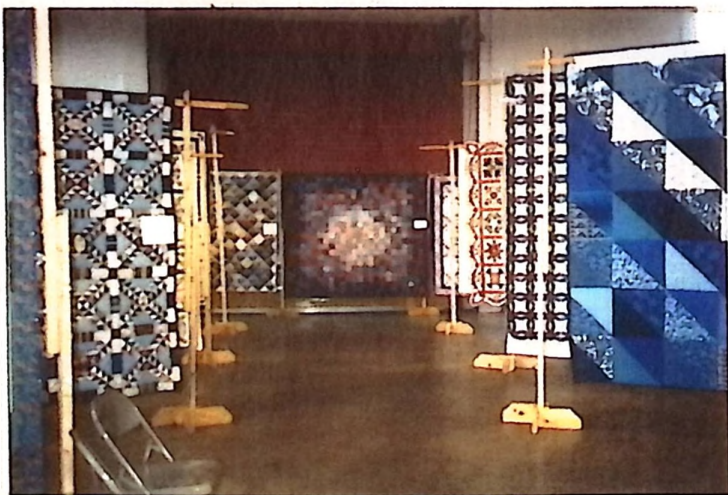
Small Quilt Auction - Visitors to the show can take home a quilt by bidding on a special selection of 50 small quilts featured in a silent auction.

Demonstrations Daily - Members of the guild will show all the newest gadgets and quilting techniques in ongoing demonstrations throughout the show.

Special Showing of "Floral Splendor" - The stunning Baltimore album quilt was raffled in 1996 to benefit the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance, as part of Quilted With Care.

Tompkins County Quilters Guild

S
H
O
W
S
E
T
U
P
1
9
9
7



Tompkins County Quilters Guild
presents



A Harvest of Quilts

September 27 & 28, 1997
10:00 am — 5:00 pm

Over 200 Quilts on Display!

Auction of Small Quilts

Daily Demonstrations

Special Exhibits

Merchant Mall

General Admission: \$3.00
Seniors and Students: \$2.00

National Guard Armory
1765 Hanshaw Rd., Dryden, NY
(Just northeast of Ithaca, off Rt. 13)



1997 Raffle Quilt- Star Flight

Designed by Lynn Ink
 Quilting design by Judi Heath

Winner: Christine Decker



Lobby-Information Table →



Baltimore album-style wall hangings were presented to Amelia Wheeler, Marian De Gloria and Alanna Fontanella as "thank you's" for chairing the Show.

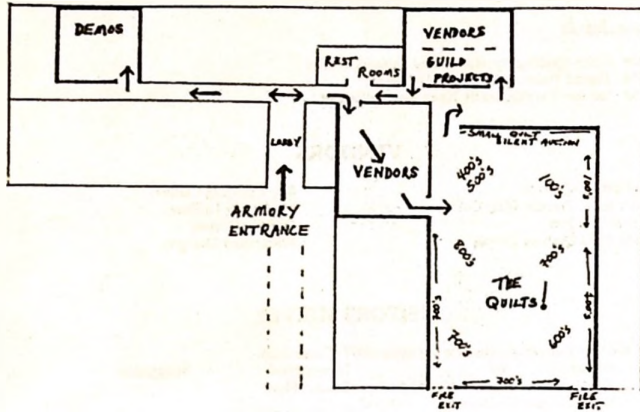
↓ TCAG Projects Room

↓ Amelia's hanging 18x18





Welcome to a Harvest of Quilts 1997 sponsored by the Tompkins County Quilters Guild. If you would like to learn more about the Guild, look for our flyer on the information table or call Brynne Sigg at (607) 273-3932. Be sure to complete the Viewer's Choice Ballot and the Visitor's Survey before you leave the Armory. Enjoy looking at the quilts, but please wear a baggie if you must touch them. Thank you for coming.



VIEWER'S CHOICE BALLOT

Please vote for the one quilt in each of the eight categories that you think is the best and write its number on the line adjacent to the category name. Winners will be announced at 4:00 PM on Sunday, September 28.

- _____ Walling Hangings (100's) _____ Miniatures (200's)
- _____ Clothing (300's) _____ Youth Quilts (400's)
- _____ Small Quilts (500's) _____ Bed-sized Applique (600's)
- _____ Bed-sized Pieced (700's) _____ Antique Quilts (800's)

Raffle tickets, the Viewer's Choice Ballot Box and Tompkins County Quilters Guild information can all be found in the lobby. The demonstration schedule and vendors are listed on the back of this sheet. Please take the time to fill out the survey. Enjoy the show!

Front and back of handout to visitors

DEMONSTRATION SCHEDULE

Saturday, Sep. 27

- 11 AM Flip & Sew/Paper Piecing by Lisa Turner
- 12 PM Machine Quilting by Quilters Corner
- 1 PM Winter Warmers - Quick Mittens & Slippers by Patchwork & Pies
- 2 PM Quick Flying Geese by Denise Lentini
- 3 PM Machine Embroidery by Kay's Sewing Center
- 4 PM Putting Photographs On Fabric by Anne Garretson

Sunday, Sep. 28

- 11 AM Crazy Quilting by Machine by Quilters Corner
- 12 PM Thread Painting by Kathy DeForest
- 1 PM Fastum Easy Quilts by Kay's Sewing Center

VENDORS

- Reneé Brainard Gentz
- Laraba Arts: Frances Blair Collins
- Patchwork & Pies
- Rolling Hills Quilters Corner
- Kay's Sewing Center
- My Hands To Thee
- Quilters Corner
- Watershed Designs

VISITORS SURVEY

How did you learn about Harvest of Quilts 1997? (Circle one)
 Radio TV Newspaper Magazine
 Fabric Shop Guild Member Poster/Flyer
 Guild Newsletter/Meeting Other _____

What is your ZIP code? _____

What did you like about the show?

What did you dislike about the show?

What suggestions do you have to help us improve our show in the future?

S
M
A
L
L

Q
U
I
L
T

S
I
L
E
N
T

A
U
C
T
I
O
N





Auction Quilts



Linton Award
 Winner: Jane Walker
 Presented by Cindy Linton
 and Linda Van Nederynen



V
I
E
W
E
R
S

C
H
O
I
C
E



Wall
Hanging: →
Wine + Roses
by Elsie Denton



← Small Quilt:
Rainbow Zoo
by Brynne Sigg



Clothing: →
Cozy Magenta
Jacket
by Charlotte
Addy

Miniature: →
Princess Feather II
by Lynn Ink





← Youth:
Manual Alphabet
Made by
Tricia Armstrong's
class at
DeWitt Middle
School

Applique: →
by Phyllis
Smith



V
I
E
W
E
R
S



Antique: Ohio Rose
Owned by Alanna Fontanella



Pieced:
Andrew's Quilt
by Casey Carr

C
H
O
I
C
E



Photo: SPOFFORD

INCARCERATED QUILTERS from Lansing's Louis Gossett, Jr. Residential Center used the traditional American medium of quilting blocks to express their experiences in a quilt exhibited at last week's Tompkins County Quilters' Guild Show. Because the residents are minors, their photos cannot be shown in order to protect their privacy. Shown are area quilters Brynne Sigg (Ithaca), Lisa Turner (Lansing) Ariel Alberga-Martin (Lansing) and Gossett teacher Peggy Spofford.

The Spirit of '76:

Lansing Community News 10/1/97

Gossett Residents Featured At County's "Harvest of Quilts"

Seventy-six young men at the Louis Gossett Jr. Residential Center in South Lansing combined the traditional rural American art form of quilting with their personal, contemporary and predominantly urban life experiences to produce the quilt "Gossett Reflects" which was featured at the Tompkins County Quilters' Guild Show "Harvest of Quilts" this past weekend at the NYS Armory.

Working with Ithaca College volun-

teers, the Gossett residents decorated muslin blocks as an after school project. They depict themes of love, sports, patriotism and ethnic pride. Many blocks were drawn in memory of loved ones who died as a result of urban violence and drug use.

Gossett science teacher Peggy Spofford, herself an avid quilter, recruited other Guild members to help the residents mount and tie their commemorative blocks.



QUILTS GET FANCY
in downtown
exhibit ■ Page 3

Arts + Leisure
Oct. 2, 1997

QUILT WALK

On and around The Commons ■ through Oct. 13

WARM up for the harvest in downtown Ithaca with the annual Quilt Walk, featuring an abundance of quilts in window displays on and around The Commons pedestrian mall. The 50 stunning examples of this truly American art form can be enjoyed through Oct. 13.

From contemporary to traditional, from whimsical to fancy, quilt enthusiasts can delight in the wide array of patterns and techniques used by the many contributing quilters from the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Quilt Walk is joined by several other quilt events this weekend during the Apple Harvest Festival: on Friday, Kids and Quilts, a hands on quilt project for children will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Quilt Stories is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; "Demonstrations of Quilt Techniques Old and New" will be



Provided MICHAEL WELLEN

EGYPTIAN GODDESS: The 'Isis' quilt, made by Mary Milne, measures 53" x 21" and is one of the 50 quilts on display in store windows along The Commons.

held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5; and Community Quilt-making, A-B-C quilts, will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The special quilt events are sponsored by the Downtown Ithaca Business Improvement District and the Tompkins County Quilters Guild.

Quilt Walk and the special quilt events of the Apple Harvest Festival are funded in part by funds administered by the Tompkins County Advisory Board on Tourism Development.

For more information, contact Bridget Haberman at 277-6065.

New President -
June Silberman
10/97



Thursday night group
working on quilt to be
presented to out-going
President Brynne Sigg



Presentation 10/97 →

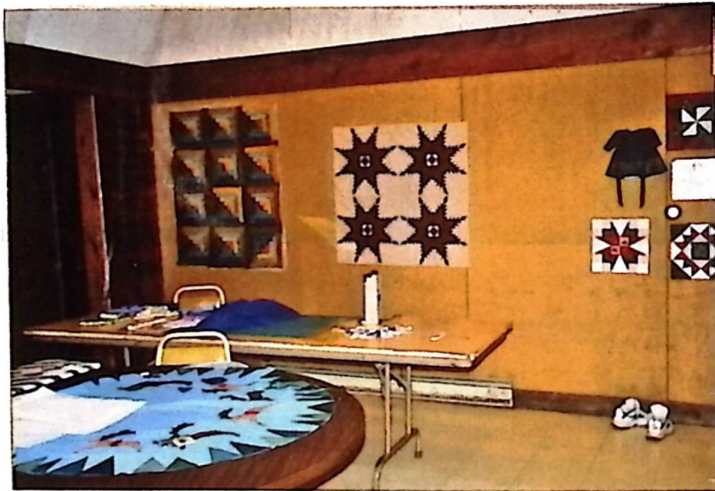


Donna Hall, Melissa Fowler, Brynne Sigg, Kathy
Dunsmore, Jessica Drennan



Casowasco

Sewing



Weekend

November 14-16, 1997





Kate Miller



Beth Osterman



Kathy Dunsmore



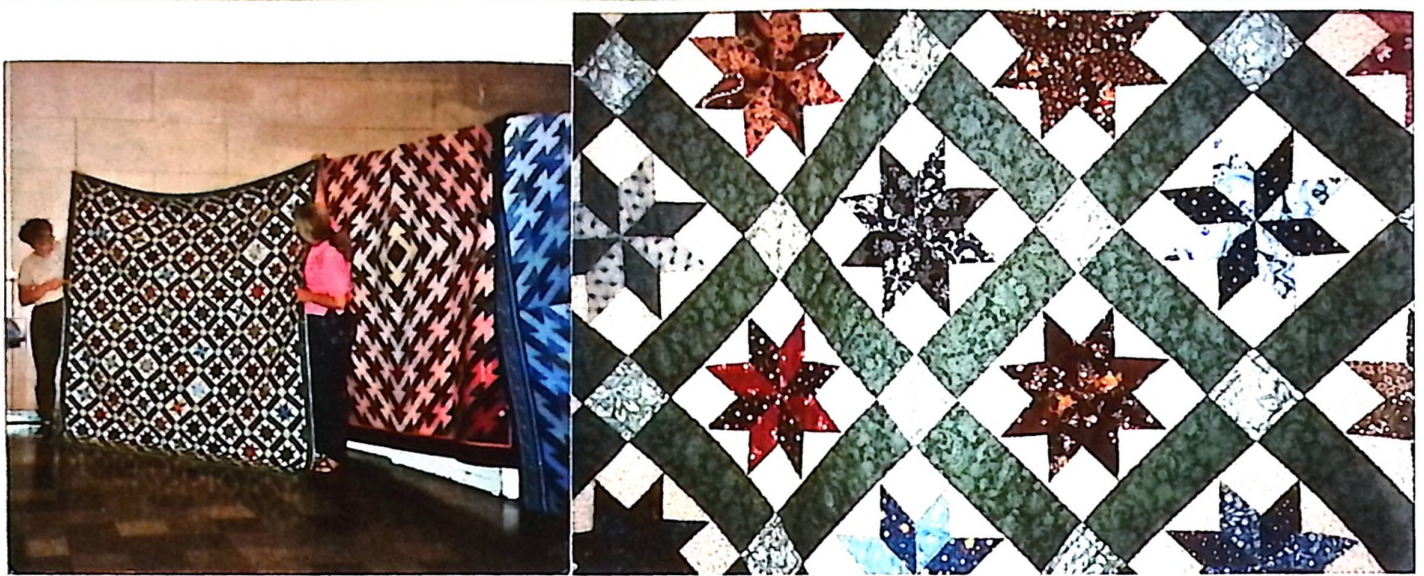
Alanna Fontanella



Eleanor Abbott



Barbara Dimock



Quilts at Becky Herdle Lecture



Christmas
Block
Exchange

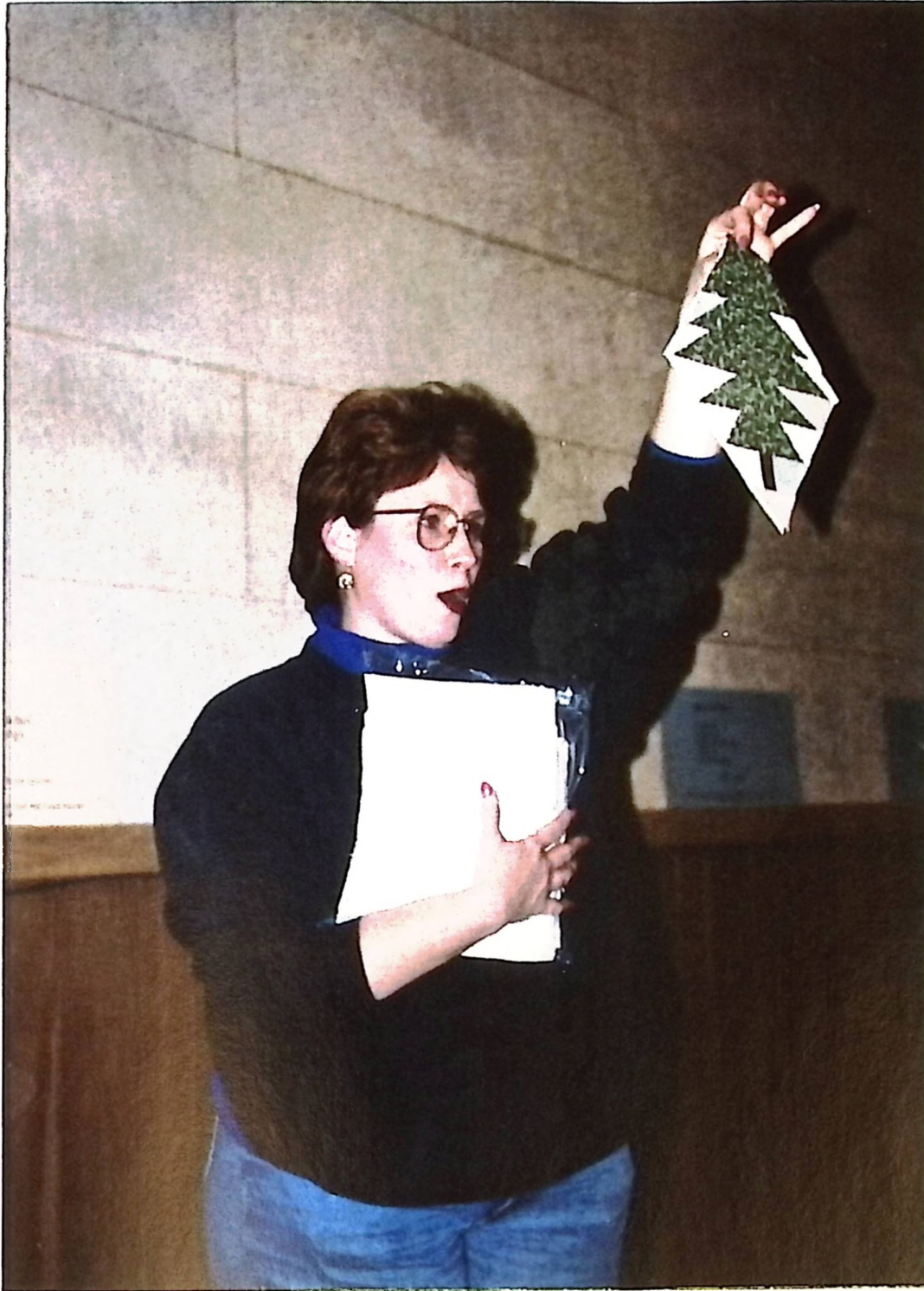
Red + Green
Stars



Firestorm
Received TCQG
award
Nov. '97 to Jan. '98
Schweinfurth Museum



Firestorm
Nancy M. Bales
Scheneectady, NY
NYS
Judges Choice for Innovative Work
The Thompsons County Quilters' Guild
Traditional Small Appliqued
1st Place
Spectacular use of color

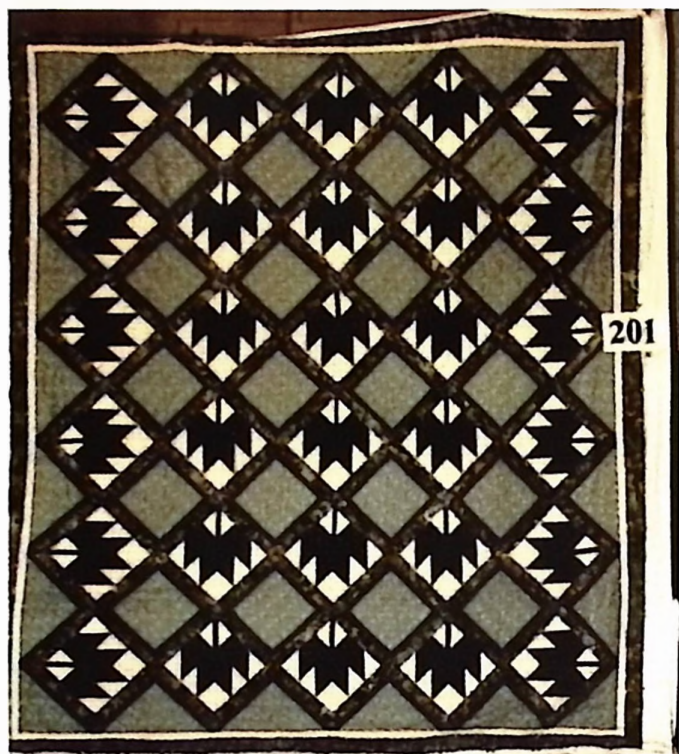


Investment Club

Mary Ellen Hawker

The investment club ran from April 1997 to December 1997. Each month's newsletter had another tip for investing. Mary Ellen holds up a finished "pay off."

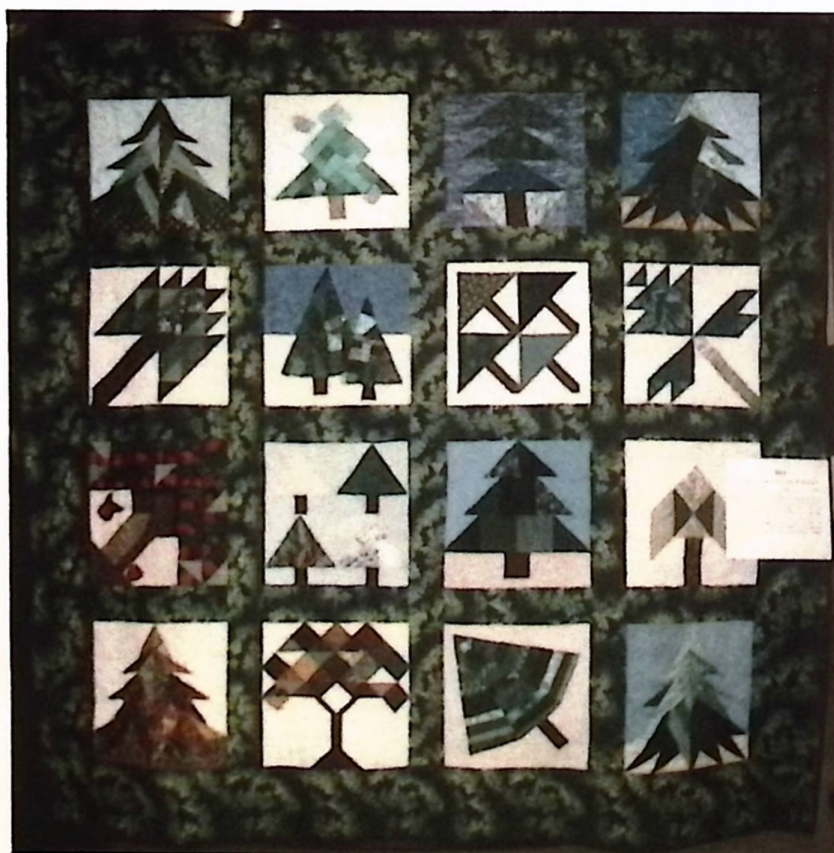
Friendship Exchange Groups



1997 Basic Block exchange group
Barbara Ruane's "On-Point Maple Leaf"



Holiday block exchanges
Casey Carr's "Holiday Friendship" 1998
(from three holiday exchanges)



1996 Scrap Block exchange group
Cyndi Slothower's "Trees Through the
Seasons"