

## From the Editor

When Pat Cox invited me to be one of the speakers at the Winter Fantasy I remarked that one would have to be crazy to go to St. Paul in January. "Oh no," she assured me, "Minneapolis-St. Paul is in a warm belt (those were her exact words, I swear). "It gets cold above and below us but we don't get much cold."

Do you remember the January storms that hit the Midwest this year? One couldn't fly in or out of Chicago and the TV weather reports spoke of "feet of snow". It was so cold, Pat would not even tell me the temperature when I called the day before I left. But it did warm up when I arrived and once it even got up to 10.

But if the weather was cold outside it certainly was not inside. There was a warm and friendly atmosphere that went even beyond the usual quilt affair friendliness.

I am grateful to Donna and Bryce Hamilton for inviting me to be a guest in their cozy, lovely home. I slept under quilts surrounded by quilts on floor to ceiling racks. In one corner was a charming pile of smiling, sleepy, patchwork cats!

Because space is so tight in the JOURNAL we frequently have to omit little humorous happenings but I want to share this one with you at the risk of running short of space for something else.

Michael James was also a guest of the Hamiltons and the morning of the show opening, we were all up early. Donna and Bryce had the living room full of bags of quilts for their booth and the men went on a last minute errand. On the way back the van broke down!

Fortunately a neighbor loaned us her small Nova and amid a good deal of joking and nervous laughter we tried to pack everything into the little car. When every package and the four of us were all stuffed into the car, Bryce started the motor. Unfortunately the car sat so low that now we couldn't get over a hump of ice in the driveway.

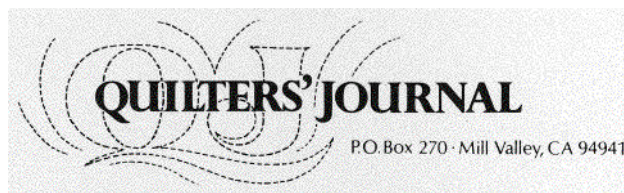
Everybody and everything out! With Michael driving, Donna and Bryce pushing (I cheered from the sidelines), we got over the hump. We hurriedly packed everything back in and away we went. This time because we had had practice we even had room for Donna to see out. Here's to Quilt Happenings!



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