

NOTES FROM YOUR EDITOR

We are pleased to welcome Winifred Reddall of Santa Rosa, CA to the staff as Research Assistant. In the past she has been invaluable to us in helping us find vital statistics for the cover and lead article subjects.

Mrs. Reddall is one of those incredibly lucky persons who happens upon any number of articles pertaining to quilts and quilting. She frequents garage sales, flea markets and libraries, not necessarily in that order and invariably comes home with something for which I have been searching for years.

You probably guessed that she is also a genealogy buff and can tell you just how to find where the person was born and the year she married. She is the former editor of the Sonoma County Genealogy Society Newsletter.

When we ran the cover and lead article about Myrtle Mae Fortner in the Fall '78 JOURNAL, we didn't have the date of her death. Winifred came to our rescue and we have put an updated biographical sketch on page 5.

Once again I had incredible luck in finding correspondence from a major quilt figure heretofore unpublished. It came through the correspondence of Bertha Stenge, loaned to us by her daughter Francis Traynor of Chicago. Through those letters I found Miss Emma Andres of Arizona. We had talked at the time of the Bertha Stenge article and when I decided to do Florence Peto I called her to ask if she had known Mrs. Peto and what she might have.

She was quick to respond that she had known Mrs. Peto, met her only once but corresponded with her for many years. Indeed, she had about three scrapbooks full of correspondence as well as magazine and newspaper articles. She promised to loan them for me to share with you. I was so excited it was difficult to contain myself until they arrived.

They came in a plain brown grocery store type box but what a treasure! The scrapbooks were about 10" X 12" of the 1940 vintage with green or black covers, "Scrapbook" was printed in gold letters. They made a stack about 8" high. Some pages had three or four letters still in their original envelopes scotch taped to them. Some pages had only one carefully taped to one end so the letter could be turned over just as Mrs. Peto had typed it. They covered the years 1939-1970. Obviously there was much, much too much for a single article.

I have read and reread the correspondence two or maybe three times and enjoyed them more each time. I hope you enjoy them also and I say, "GOD BLESS EMMA ANDRES for sharing!"

As Mrs. Peto would say, "Yours with quilts on the brain."

Joyce

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Florence Peto	pg 1
<u>Cathedral Window</u>	pg 4
Hatfield McCoy - Part 2	pg 5
Myrtle Fortner	pg 5
Providence Bedding	pg 6
The Dinner Party	pg 8
Quilters' Hall of Fame	pg 9
Jonathon Holstein on Art	pg 9
A Circus Bedquilt	pg 10, 11
Hardman Quilt Film	pg 12
Milan H. Johnson	pg 13
Ernest Thompson Seton	pg 17
Bibliography Florence Peto	pg 18



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