

From your Editor

With many people trying to complete their file of JOURNAL back issues, we find some confusion. To those of you who think your file is incomplete because Winter 1980 is missing, fear not! Winter, 1981 is really Winter, 1980. The real winter 1981 is issue #18. Those gremlins you know.

At the Continental Quilting Congress in Nov '82, a small group of researchers from Quilters' Research Network met to informally exchange information and questions. The exchanges always bring renewed enthusiasm for more meetings and exchanges. We are now planning a two-day session following the "Heirloom to Heirloom Quilter's Conference '83 in Ames, Iowa July 6-9. The conference looks to be one of special interest to JOURNAL readers. Write Brunner Gallery & Museum, Scheman Bldg, Iowa State Univ, Ames, Iowa 50011.

The JOURNAL is also planning a three day mini-conference and tour of Washington D.C., following the Congress '83. Details of the special tours and opportunities planned which will be of special interest to JOURNAL readers will be in the next issue.

At the Congress, Cuesta Benberry gave her speech on "Afro-American Women and their quilts to an enthusiastic crowd. Afterwards, members of the audience came up to give her additional information about other quilts. I wish I could convey to you her excitement.

Her excitement reminded me to urge you to take a topic, no matter how small, and research it. Maybe you would like to take a pattern and find the different names and subtle changes made through the years in the published catalogs.

For many years I have collected photographs of different versions of Paradise Garden I have about six including the original version by Arsenoe Kelsey Bowen (Ruth Finley's OLD PATCHWORK QUILTS, pg 121) Pine Eisfeller's and Rose Kretsinger's. I am fascinated by the individuality in each.

Do try a little research. You'll find it is like a detective story or a jig-saw puzzle. When the missing piece or clue comes up, you too will experience a thrill.

Cover photo: Dorothy Bartle Bettis with her 1982 Lotus quilt. She is wearing a necklace made from the bronze medal received from the American Historical Society as one of the finalist in the GOOD HOUSEKEEPING QUILT CONTEST in 1977. Photo by Kennell-Ellis Photographers.

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