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QUILTERS' JOURNAL

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LILLIAN WALKER

Dear Friends,

Many of the large quilt groups and some of the smaller ones have money which they raised by fund raisers or member dues. They spend it in a variety of ways such as bringing in lecturers and speakers, purchasing books for their library, or perhaps putting out their newsletter. How does your group or guild spend your funds in spreading the word about quilts and quilting?

The Santa Rosa Quilt Guild with Victoria Sears as President, gave eight scholarships to their membership to attend the American Quilt Study Group workshop on Research. It was their hope to encourage the new Study Group by active support and to promote scholarship within their own group. The Guild has undertaken identifying and locating the past County Fair winners. They also pledged a percentage of their profits from their next fund raiser to the conservation of quilts and textiles. (Remember you read it first in the JOURNAL - the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild will sponsor their 2nd NATIONAL QUILT CONTEST and EXHIBIT in May 1983)

For some time I have been observing the condition of some of our museum quilts and become increasingly concerned. Some of our lovely old pieces are really dirty and badly in need of professional treatment.

Museums always feel the pinch of money. They frequently receive quilts or money to purchase quilts but funds to clean and conserve quilts is more difficult to find. Wouldn't it be a good idea for quilt groups to donate a sum of money for the express purpose of conservation of quilts and textiles? What better way to show our dedication to our heritage?

The next few months promise to be full and fulfilling. I will be going to the New Mexico and the Sacramento symposia and this year I will be judging several county fairs and the State Fair. In between the JOURNAL deadline is upon us.

Several of you have written notes of encouragement and we received a sizeable donation from a JOURNAL admirer. We are pleased some of you have sent additional subscriptions. Many new inquiries have come in complaining they haven't heard about the magazine. Maybe you could help us by spreading the word about the JOURNAL to your quilt group and friends.

I was pleased that Cuesta Benberry wrote about the missing pattern "find" which coincided with our publication of the history of Stearns & Foster in the last issue. Why don't you write and tell us something you have discovered?

Joyce

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