

## QUILTERS' RESEARCH NETWORK

THE QUILTERS' RESEARCH NETWORK publishes a list of members and their interests to facilitate communication between members of like interests and holds informal sessions at most major quilt conferences to encourage sharing of research and materials. For info: Barbara Brackman, 500 Louisiana St, Lawrence KS 66044

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Reviewed by Barbara Brackman

### July 20 WEST COAST QUILTERS' CONFERENCE

About 20 people attended and each told of her particular interests in quilt history followed by comments and suggestions from the others.

Those in attendance were asked for opinions and suggestions about the Study Center conducted by Joyce Gross as part of this Conference. The Center was from her collection of fabrics, antique tops, blocks, reprints of old magazine and newspaper articles about quilts and quilters, out of print pattern, books, magazines, etc. In addition, QUILTERS' NEWSLETTER MAGAZINE donated some zerox copies of their early issues to augment the Gross collection and Barbara Brackman brought patterns.

After discussion the consensus was that more quilt conferences should have Study Centers.

Mary Cross reported on the textile survey of museum collections which she has coordinated and in which volunteers have participated. She has computerized the reports which were sent in and will sell floppy disks (Apple 2 Quick File for \$25.) or printouts of the material. For info: Mary Cross, PO Box 10212, Portland, OR 97210.

A discussion followed on the structure of the Research Network with Joyce Gross and Barbara Brackman, the founders of the organization, explaining that the major function of the Network was to facilitate communication between quilt historians. Incorporation and non-profit status were discussed and dropped.

Hazel Carter suggested it would be desirable for the entire conference to have more orientation about the Network.

A STUDY CENTER is planned for the Heartland Quilt Symposium in Kansas City, May 1-5 '85. Cuesta Benberry and Joyce Gross will bring photocopies of their research material and others will bring Kansas City Star patterns to share and trade.

July 27, East Bay Heritage Quilters

Ten people attended to tell of their individual interests. Joyce Gross brought the materials for the Study Center she had in Portland but the attendance was not as good for several reasons: 1) Few Symposium attendees knew of the location; 2) there was very little free time; 3) and there had not been advance publicity. It was suggested that the conference people give participants the opportunity to take a workshop at the study center as they would a class in techniques.

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Aug 3 Missouri Quilt Conference

This conference was not as large as the two previous, so fewer people attended the Network. Those in attendance discussed their interests and how others might help.

Although there was no Study Center at this conference a discussion was held on what researchers might get from a Center and how they should be structured. Similar conclusions were reached ... participants should know ahead of time about the Study Center.

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### NETWORK MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Southern Quilt Symposium (Apr 9-11) Hunter Museum of Art, Chattanooga, TN will hold a Network session Tues Apr 9 from 2-4 pm. All welcome. For info: Bets Ramsey, 322 Pine Ridge Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37405.

Heartland Quilt Symposium (May 1-5) Kansas City will have an informal sharing session of the Network at 8 am, Fri May 4. For info: P O Box 1481. Lawrence KS 66044.

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### Help Wanted

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PRINCE GEORGE'S HISTORICAL QUILT SOCIETY  
Contact: Alice Skarda, 8900 - 59th Ave College Park, MD 20740

Prince George's Historical Quilt Society was formed as an arm of the Prince George's Historical Society. It is very new but we are already engaged in conducting a survey of Maryland quilts. We are in the process of designing our own quilt survey form to include all items in which future quilt researchers will be interested.

We would be most grateful if any of your readers would offer us some specific words of wisdom about conducting our survey or share with us their survey forms.

## UPDATE

### Kentucky Mountain Quilts

Barbara Brackman notes that there has been some confusion in the article "The Kentucky Mountain Quilt" about the caption "The 'Lady Finger' and 'Sunflower' are Quaint Old Patterns " in JOURNAL #24.

In the Feb 1912 LADIES HOME JOURNAL, the original caption was placed between the pictures of the two quilts. In subsequent years the two names have been misread as one and in many references you will find the upper quilt incorrectly identified as "Lady Finger and Sunflower "instead of the correct title of "Lady Finger".

Ms Brackman wrote, "My preference for the name is 'Whig's Defeat' but it is not recorded as far as I can find until Hall called it that in 1935. I don't know what her reference was.

"The oldest actual quilt I have seen in the pattern is dated 1844 and was at the Kansas City Museum show in 1983. I know of others dating from the Civil War era and there are two from 1850-1860 in the 1984 Quilt Engagement Calendar.

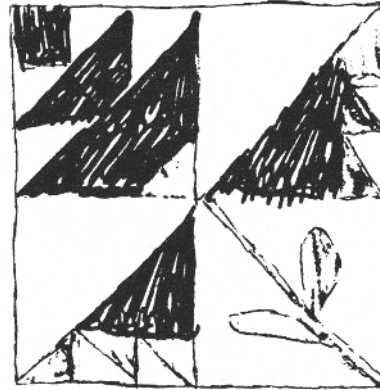
"Mrs Danner called it 'Lotus Blossom' and 'Richmond Beauty' (1934), CAPPER'S WEEKLY called it 'Fanny's Favorite' (1930), Bertha Stenge called it 'Lotus Flowers' (see Elizabeth Wells Robertson, AMERICAN QUILTS, The Studio Publications, Inc 1948) Stearns and Foster called it 'Grandmother's Engagement Ring ' (pattern #109)"

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In the Art Institute of Chicago Gift Catalog 1984: "colorful silk screened (place) mat adapted from an American quilt (c1947) in poly/cotton. Set of 2 - 13 1/2" x 18 1/2" #G141 \$13." and a apron to match \$30." (G 140) They are adapted from Dr Jeanette Dean Throckmorton's quilt in their collection.

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USAIR published an article in Sept 1984 about a Mattie Lou O'Kelley, a primitive painter in Georgia. The double page spread was a reproduction of her "Emily Mattie Arrives". There were two beds with quilts on them. The other pictures did not show any quilts but you might want to check her autobiography entitled, HILLS OF GEORGIA, Atlantic- Little, Brown.



In JOURNAL #22 we ran this drawing of a quilt block and asked for help in identifying it. Marsha McCloskey responded with a list of sources.

"Windblown Lily" LADIES CIRCLE PATCHWORK QUILTS, Spring '82.

Pattern and photo of quilt in PIECED QUILTS OF ONTARIO by Dorothy K Burnham shows a variation which they identify as a maple leaf with the sentence, "Perhaps we have a very rare thing, a genuinely Canadian design"

"English Ivy" - photo of quilt in QUILTS FROM NEBRASKA COLLECTIONS made by Lodemo Evelyn West about 1879.

"Tree" in HOUSE & GARDEN June 1909 in an article entitled "Cotton Mosaic Quilts" by Evelyn Prince Cahoon.

Photo of another version in Prudence Penny OLD TIME QUILTS made by Mrs J R Grant who won a silver cup and sweepstakes prize for the best pieced quilt in a contest sponsored by the POST-INTELLIGENCER in 1927.

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The NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, Jan 1984 has an excellent article about the silk industry entitled "The Queen of Textiles". On pg 13 "A silk quilt is the measure of a young Chinese woman's proper dowry."

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Barbara Brackman sent us a postcard from the Nat'l Museum of American History @ 1981 Smithsonian Institution, Washington D C. Publ by Harry N Abrams, Inc N Y. It illustrated Harriet Power's Bible Quilt.