

QUILTERS' JOURNAL

NO. 31



From the collection of the Spencer Museum of Art

"Orchid Wreath" made by Rose Kretsinger in 1928 was her own original design inspired by a Coca-Cola Orchid

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2



1. The Kretsinger home at 901 Market St., Emporia Kansas. Today it is the home and studio for Mary Kretsinger.

2. RK at home

3. RK, at right, dressed for the Art Institute of Chicago "Beaux Art" Ball

4. RK with her baby, Mary

5. Rose Francis Good, age 15.

6. Snapshot of RK. She made a notation on the back "Totem Pole".

Photos courtesy of Mary Kretsinger

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6



4



5



ROSE FRANCES GOOD KRETSINGER

by Joyce Gross

In 1973, the University of Kansas Museum of Art had an exhibition of quilts from their collection entitled "150 Years of American Quilts". There were several of Rose Kretsinger's quilts including "Paradise Garden" and "Calendula". Their lively, clear colors were a far cry from the Depression quilts of that period and I quickly fell in love with her quilts.

The 1973 "Patch in Time" was being planned and it was agreed that those two quilts should be included in the exhibit. When I asked about background material on the quiltmaker I was shocked to find that the museum staff had little information about the artist aside from her name and where she had lived. They gave me Mary Kretsinger's (RK's daughter) name who lived not too far from Lawrence and a phone call to her brought an invitation to visit. Since then I have been to Emporia three times and MK & I have corresponded and visited via the telephone as I continued to collect articles and information about RK.

In 1986, Bettina Havig and I spent three days in Emporia, Kansas interviewing MK and reading about the Kretsinger family in the Lyon County Historical Society Museum. (See pg 24) The high point of the trip came when MK located her mother's three quilt books and brought them out. There on the title page (see pg 5) was a list of quilts in RK's own handwriting. There are other annotations of interest. They are now part of my collection.

No bibliography of quilt books would be complete without THE ROMANCE OF THE PATCHWORK QUILT by Carrie Hall & Rose Kretsinger. (Caxton Printers Ltd @1935) It is considered one of the standard quilt books that has such appeal that it has been printed and reprinted many times. But Rose Kretsinger's fame comes from more than just the book.

It is also her fourteen quilts, now in the collection of the Spencer Museum of Art in Lawrence, Kansas, that gives her a special place in the heart of quilt lovers. Their design, color and technique put them in a class above the grayed-down pastels of their contemporaries. There are undoubtedly others in that class but it is fortunate for us that Mary Kretsinger (RK's daughter) had the foresight to give the quilts to the Museum where they could be shared. The Museum must be acknowledged because they have made the quilts available to us all by featuring them in the three quilt catalogs, in quilt exhibitions too numerous to name, and by recently sending them on a tour of Japan so their influence and inspiration has been extended far beyond Kansas.

But what about Rose Kretsinger? Who was she?

Rose Frances Good was born in Hope, Kansas Nov 30, 1886 to Anna Gleissner and Milton Good. We have only a few clues as to her childhood. According to the EMPORIA GAZETTE (5/17/78), "Her family was arts and craft oriented and she showed a natural flair for art". As a child she had polio and though she didn't limp, one leg was a little different shape.

Art Institute of Chicago

Much has been written about RK's association with the Art

Institute of Chicago and in reply to our query of the Art Institute about their student Rose Francis Good, Mary McIsaac, Archivist for the museum, replied "Miss Good attended The School of the Art Institute of Chicago as a full time student from Sept 1905 until she graduated on June 19, 1908 from The Design Department. During the three years she spent in our school, Miss Good received high grades, and was awarded a Class Honorable Mention upon her graduation. In addition to the regular curriculum, Good studied pottery in our Saturday School during the academic years of 1905-6 and 1906-7.

"At the time of Good's enrollment, the object of the Department of Decorative Design was to educate students as professional designers. The three year course embraced the theory of design, practice in drawing and in water color plus exercises in original design. The noted Louis J Millet was the principal teacher and the chairman of the department. Mr Millet had been trained in Paris by Train, Galland, Aimee Millet, and L'Ecole des Beaux Arts.

"Miss Good was more than capable in her field and may have taught somewhere...however, our archives do not indicate that she taught in our school.

"...One of Good's registration cards, shows her home as Kansas City, MO." One might add that both the diploma and the honorable mention certificate are large and impressive.

Travels in Europe

In the material at hand, there are some clues to the dates of her travels in Europe after graduation. MK remembers her mother mentioning several times that she saw Halley's Comet (which appeared from Europe in 1910.)

The announcement in the EMPORIA GAZETTE (12/17/14) quotes from the KANSAS CITY GAZETTE (same date) "... (Miss Good) spent the past year studying in Europe".

In an article dated 6/22/33 in the Lyon County Historical Society (see pg 24 for an article on their collection) Mrs K... "talked on her travels in Germany more than 20 years ago at a meeting..."

MK says "I always thought Alphonse Mucha, with whom RK studied in Europe, influenced her work — he was, flamboyant, loved curves and reverse curves. She particularly loved reverse curves. Mucha (pronounced Moo-ka) was a contemporary of Gauguin and was a famous decorative artist of the Art Nouveau period."

Career

Many articles remarked on RK's career in jewelry and fabric design. MK said, "She did not have a true career in jewelry and fabric design although she did both after she graduated. She traveled a lot during this period. To Europe and down to Cuba after the revolution. She went as a buyer for an agent in Chicago. They were buying up the jewelry pawned by the aristocrats to bring up to Chicago where they would sell it in a shop across from a theatre during the opera season."

Wedding

RK met her future husband, William Samuel Kretsinger through mutual friends in Kansas City. According to the

EMPORIA DAILY GAZETTE (7/31/34) he had been married to a Miss Nell Ownes in 1903 and had a son Caril by that marriage. The dates of his second marriage are not verified. Two articles have different dates for the wedding and her subsequent death. Their two children died in infancy. According to a newspaper article (source and date unknown) Miss Rose Frances Good was married at the home of her aunt and uncle, Mr & Mrs William E Gleissner in Kansas City to Mr William Samuel Kretsinger on Wednesday evening Dec 16, 1914. Her mother gave the bride away who was dressed in a gown of liberty satin and rose point lace, trimmed with white satin rosebuds. Southern smilax, palms and ferns with sweet peas and stevia decorated the house. After a trip to Colorado and Arizona the couple settled down in Emporia, Kansas where Mr Kretsinger was a "prominent attorney and politician".

Another newspaper article quoting from the 12/15/14 KANSAS CITY JOURNAL places the wedding at the home of the bride's parents, Mr & Mrs Milton Good with a street address in Kansas City. This article describes the wedding gown as "elaborately trimmed with rose point lace" and notes that "Her veil was fastened with orange blossoms and she carried lilies and brides' roses." No mention of her mother giving the bride away.

Young Bride

RK was always good with the needle and as a young bride she made her own clothes. In the early '20s she completely embroidered a dress on beautiful sheer material.

In 1915, Mr Kretsinger built their home. Mary was born shortly before they spent their first Christmas in the home. Their second child was William D (Bill) who is now retired and lives near Mary in Emporia.

Now in addition to making her own clothes, RK also made all of Mary's. Though many of her prize ribbons were awarded from the Textile Departments of the Fairs, many do not specify the object for which the prize was awarded. In 1927, two of her Kansas State Fair ribbons noted that the prizes were for dresses.

She had been brought up as a Lutheran, but now went to the Congregational Church with her husband and was active in the Plymouth Daughters of the church. She enjoyed doing the church decorations.

Tragedy

An article at the Lyon Co Historical Society dated 10/27/26 states that "Mrs M D Good was killed almost instantly at 6:30 Sunday evening when she was struck by a Ford coupe...Mrs Good was the mother of Mrs W S Kretsinger". She had just started the semester as a sorority house mother at the nearby campus and had been visiting the Kretsingers when she was struck as she returned to the campus.

In a letter dated 8/18/73, MK wrote "We had a tragedy in the family and because she (RK) had trouble...going ahead with life, she began making quilts. She would sit with my father by the radio and work on them..."

EMPORIA DAILY GAZETTE (9/16/30) (Mrs K... said) "that her grandmother taught her to make her first stitches on a quilt. When her first lessons were over, she abandoned the work for many years. In the last five years, Mrs K... has

completed 14 quilts...

"Sometimes my friends wonder how I get so many done... But making quilts is the only thing I have ever found that I could do while listening to the radio or visiting. I have my materials all ready, fixing them in moments when I am not busy, and then each day I work on them in odd moments when I am cooking or waiting for callers, or catching a few minutes rest."

The Kretsingers had a hired girl whose grandmother lived in Chicago at the time of the big fire. Her quilts had been in a hope chest which was destroyed but the burnt scraps had been rescued and inherited by this girl. RK was able to design the quilts from the remnants.

According to the EMPORIA GAZETTE (9/16/30), (RK's) "interest in her hobby is based on two desires; first to revive an interest in an old and fascinating art, and second to have the finest collection of good quilt patterns in the state."

She collected calico and various materials from old people in Emporia but relied on Marshall Fields in Chicago for her solid colored Peter Pan Gingham.

Rose Kretsinger

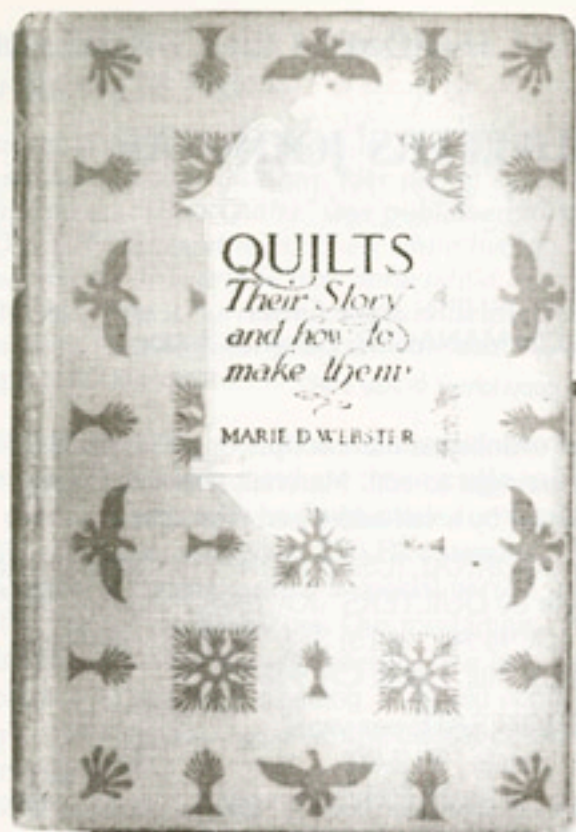
MK describes her mother as a sweet-spirited, kind, "gentlewoman" who loved nothing more than to share her know-how and designs with her friends. She sold a lot of patterns to all her quilts... and gave a lot of time to helping ladies who were interested in quilts. Because her quilts won so many prizes, she was well known in her area and was frequently called upon to display her quilts or to give talks to clubs. She collected antiques, loved music, wrote poetry, was good at upholstery and wood finishing. She wasn't one to brag about her work.

She was something of a "loner" although she enjoyed her Bridge Club and the Research Club. When she was the hostess for the clubs, she always started a week before bringing out the china and crystal. It was an important event.

William S Kretsinger

In 1934, Wm S Kretsinger was running for the Republican congressional nomination. Though he lost the nomination, THE EMPORIA GAZETTE (7/31/34) published a article in his support.

"He was born, reared, educated, went into business and has spent his life in this community...His mother was left with a mortgage on her house and a family of small children. She took in washing. Will Kretsinger sold papers and blacked boots on the street. The other children did everything they could to help pay off the mortgage. They lived meagerly... the past 25 years he has invested every surplus cent he had in the farm. He has taken the farmer's loss. He has harvested the farmer's poor gains. He has been a real farmer..." Mr Kretsinger's obituary (GAZETTE (10/10/40) read "All his life Mr Kretsinger had been interested in politics, always a consistent Republican of the standpat wing of that party. He has served this town as city attorney and for several years was central committeeman in the Fourth ward. He was secretary of state three sessions..." and ran for many offices. He was regarded as a pillar of society.



17 Paradise Garden
1st Topeka & Sweepstakes 1949
1st Hutchinson & Sweepstakes 1950
1st Calcutta 1932
Warren M Crosby Co, Topeka \$15.00 1st prize.
Orchid flowers
1st prize - applique - Hutchinson (Kans.)
1st Hutchinson 1931
Sweepstakes + 1st prize for
best original design applique
1930 Topeka

2
16 My design - old calico, flowers & berries in lavender, "Pennsylvania Garden" started 1931
17 Pennsylvania Beauty
18 "Paradise Garden" - 1946
1st and Sweepstakes Topeka
Hutchinson
1st prize Hutchinson 1950
Sweepstakes 1952

1 Irish Chain - Blue - worn out -
Made 1925 - July
2 Basket of Strawberries - Green & pink triangles -
Made 1925 - December
3 Green Patch - Made 1926 - worn out
4 Pink & white Snowflake - not exhibited
Made 1926
5 Democratic Rose - Red & green - 1926
prizes - 2nd Topeka 1929 - 2nd Hutchinson
6 Irish Chain Scotch Thistle - 1925 -
7 Ohio Rose - 1926 - 1st prize Topeka 1927
8 Indiana Wreath, 1927 -
1st prize Topeka QUILTS - 1st prize Hutchinson 1928
THEIR STORY AND
HOW TO MAKE THEM
9 Pride of Iowa - Green & Red flowers
with berries & birds -
2 prizes Womans City Club,
1 prize Topeka - 1 prize Hutchinson 1928
10 French Basket - Blue & pink flowers
made 1928 sold - 100 - 3-1 prize
11 Oriental Poppy - 1927 -
1st - Topeka Fair 1931
12 Wreath of Roses with green border - 1929 -
1 prize Topeka - 1 prize Hutchinson - 1929
1931
13 New Rose Tree - made 1929 -
14 - 1st prize Topeka - 1930
15 - Mustard green & lemon yellow
1st prize Topeka - 1st prize Hutchinson 1930

LIST OF QUILTS MADE BY
ROSE KRETSINGER
In Rose Kretsinger's own copy of
Marie Webster QUILTS: Their
Story, is this list of the quilts she
made. She also owned Ruth Finley's
OLD PATCHWORK QUILTS and a
copy of Hall & Kretsinger's THE
ROMANCE OF THE PATCHWORK
QUILT. All were first editions and
annotated. Now in the Gross collec-
tion.

Quilts Made by Rose Kretsinger

RK's handwritten list of her quilts

Page 1

- 1 Irish Chain; Blue; Made 1925-July; worn out; (mother's)
- 2 Basket of Strawberries Green & Pink triangles; Made in 1925 December (mother's)
- 3 Green Patch Made 1926 worn out (mother's)
- 4 Pink & White Snowflake; Made in 1926; not exhibited
- 5 Democratic Rose Red & Green 1926; prizes 2nd Topeka 1929 2nd Hutchinson (nd)
- 6 Irish Chain Scotch Thistle; 1925 (mother's)
- 7 Ohio Rose; 1926, 1st Prize Topeka 1927.
- 8 Indiana Wreath; 1927; 1 prize Topeka 1 prize Hutchinson 1928
- 9 Pride of Iowa; Green & Red Flowers with berries & birds, 2 prize Womans City Club; 1st prize Topeka - 1 prize Hutchinson 1928
- 10 French Basket; Blue & pink flowers; made in 1928 sold \$100 3-1 prizes*
- 11 Oriental Poppy; 1927; 1st Topeka Fair 1931. pink-9 blocks.
- 12 Wreath of Roses with green border-1929; 1 Topeka 1 prize Hutchinson 1929; 1 prize Hutchinson 1931
- 13 New Rose Tree; Made in 1929-
- 14 Orchid; Made 1928; 1 prize Topeka 1930; Sweepstakes 1930**
- 15 Mustard Green & Lemon Yellow "Allen Rose" ***; 1930; 1st prize Topeka; 1st prize Hutchinson, Womans Day Magazine

Page 2

- 16 My design - old calico, flowers & berries in lavender, "Pennsylvania Garden" started 1931.
- 17 Pennsylvania Beauty
- 18 "Paradise Garden"; 1946, 1st & Sweepstakes Topeka; 1st & Sweepstakes Hutchinson(nd); 1st prize Hutchinson 1950; Sweepstakes 1952.

Page 3

- 17 Paradise Garden: 1st Topeka & Sweepstakes 1949; 1st Hutchinson & Sweepstakes 1949; 1st Hutchinson & Sweepstakes 1950.
- 16 Calendula Quilt; 1932; Warren M Crosby Co, Topeka \$15.00 1st prize
Orchid Flowers
1st prize-applique-Hutchinson, Kansas; 1st prize applique Hutchinson 1931; Sweepstakes & 1st prize for best original design applique 1930 Topeka

*This quilt, was very worn when it was later returned to RK. The EMPORIA GAZETTE (9/20/46) states, "The quilt on which she is working now is her own version of "French Basket". The model has a blue background, white flower baskets and realistic roses"

**There is an arrow drawn from #14 to page 3(probably written at a later date). See "Orchid Flowers" listed on page 3.

***According to Mary Kretsinger, RK made only one mustard green and lemon yellow quilt. Based on the information we have at this time we can only surmise that the name "Allen Rose" was changed to "Calendula" soon after it was made. MK suggests that the name "Allen" was chosen to honor some politician.

ARSINOE KELSEY BOWEN "GARDEN" QUILT*

by Joyce Gross

"Words can scarcely describe this triumph of the needle... Not one woman in a thousand, though all of them were ever so expert with the needle, could have accomplished, let alone conceived, anything approaching its beauty..." *

In 1929, there was little in the way of published material for quiltmakers. Most of the pattern catalogs showed pieced patterns but there were many quiltmakers who preferred applique. When Ruth Finley wrote *OLD PATCHWORK QUILTS* she provided pictures and detailed descriptions of beautiful old quilts which stirred the imagination of quiltmakers. The description of Arsinoe Kelsey Bowen's applique "Garden" quilt (see above) was one which not only inspired but evidently challenged many a fine quiltmaker to prove she could accomplish "this triumph of the needle". **

Mrs M R Craig (Emma) of Emporia took many prizes with her "Garden" Quilt. Her design was drawn by Mrs R J Leatherberry and was "not an original design but (a) familiar pattern." (*EMPORIA GAZETTE* 9/23/36) According to 6/29/34 newspaper clipping, "the pattern was drawn by Mrs Charles Goering of Emporia from the *Findlet Quilt* (sic) book and quilted by both Mrs Craig and Mrs Goering. In 1933, it earned a first and sweepstakes prize at the Kansas Free Fair and a first prize in the Hutchinson State Fair. It took first prizes in a 1934 nation-wide quilt contest sponsored by *HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE* and *CAPPER* publication and in the 1936 Storowton Nat'l Quilt Contest.

Mrs Leatherberry, who had given the pattern to Mrs Craig, entered her own "Garden" in the Colonial Quilt Division, at the 1936 Kansas Free Fair at Topeka and the Kansas State Fair at Hutchinson. It won 1st and sweepstakes at both fairs.

Another "Garden" is in the collection of Mrs Harriet Berman of Whitehall, Michigan. My records do not show who made it or when but it is another beautifully executed quilt in pastel colors.

Mrs Katura Elizabeth Tolley made her "Garden" in San Francisco in 1938 at the age of 83. It was quilted by the Methodist Church Ladies in S F in the same year. Family tradition attributes its creation to a small picture of RK's quilt "Paradise Garden" but according to RK's list (see pg 5) her quilt was made in 1945. "KET-1938" is quilted in Mrs Tolley's design. It was exhibited at the 1980 Santa Rosa Quilt Guild quilt show.

NIMBLE NEEDLE TREASURES (Fall '72) published an article by Ruth Snyder entitled "My Mother's Quilts" with a picture of a "Garden". The caption is "Fashioned from 'The Garden' plate 57 in Ruth Finley's book...made in the 1930s." The text of the article gives no further clues except "that the quilts are scattered in homes of her children and grandchildren." (See *JOURNAL* Summer 78 pg9)

**OLD PATCHWORK QUILTS* by Ruth E Finley, Charles T Bradford, Mass 1929. pg 121 & pl 57

** *ibid*

Mrs Florence E Lourette of Rochester, NY won a 3rd prize at the 1939 World's Fair for her "Garden". It was pictured in *ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT & CHRONICLE* 11/13/81 (see: *JOURNAL* #19 pg 6) and in the Winter 1944-45 *MCCALL'S NEEDLEWORK* "Their Hobbies".

Pine Eisfeller (see *JOURNAL* winter '81) won the 1st prize in the quilting division of the 1942 Woman's Day Nat'l Needlework Contest for her "Garden". *WOMAN'S DAY* (March '43) published a picture of her quilt in color with an advertisement that the pattern and instructions of "Mrs Eisfeller's Garden" for a 3-cent stamp.

R K wrote "1945" after "Paradise Garden" in her list of quilts on pg 5. It was her last quilt and she used a large variety of colors and textures collected over the years. Her daughter Mary remembers that when RK was confined to her bedroom in a hospital bed, she requested that all her quilts be laid flat on her own bed with "Paradise Garden" on top so that she could touch it.

In the QNM (Apr 80) Barbara Brackman wrote an article entitled "Charlotte Jane Whitehill — Applique Artist". The quilt on Mrs Whitehill's lap is not identified but it is undoubtedly her "Garden". The Denver Art Museum's 29 Whitehill quilts do not include a "Garden".

Verna M (Mrs Irving) Sutherland's "Garden" was made in 1945 and exhibited at the 1976 Ithaca quilt show. (See *JOURNAL* Spring 1978 pg 20)

At the 1977 NQA quilt exhibit, the catalog caption for #259 reads "Blue Rose/Swag Border. Made in China. From the Maytag Estate, Pittsburg, PA". After the Maytag Estate sale, a maid found this "Garden" quilt and two others in the garbage can. A good washing made it beautiful again!. At the time of the NQA show it belonged to Mrs Louise Aggelo.

Eleven "Garden" quilts! As far as we can surmise each one is exquisite in detail and nearly perfect in technique. Some were prize winners. Probably all of them deserve prizes. All of these listed were made after Mrs Finley's book was published, but the author suggests that the pattern was in general use in the 1850s, when she wrote, "(It is) an applique design known under the general name of 'The Garden'".

Another clue to the popularity of the pattern at that time, are the quotes Mrs Finley attributes to Mrs Bowen's great niece, "The 'Garden' design was to applique what a 'Star of Bethlehem' or a 'Rising Sun' was to pieced patchwork, each the acme of its branch of the art. But applique is unlike piecing in that it offers more possibilities of diversification and embellishment...For the 'Star of Bethlehem' ...there was a set pattern. For 'The Garden' there was no actual pattern but an idea. No two 'Garden' quilts are alike, although all have certain characteristics in common...All show a center medallion, which in itself may vary in plan and size and may or may not be surrounded with a wreath or other embellishments. Flowers...are the predominating motif of 'The Garden' quilt, but birds, festoons of ribbons or ropes, baskets, cornucopias, and fruits were sometimes introduced."

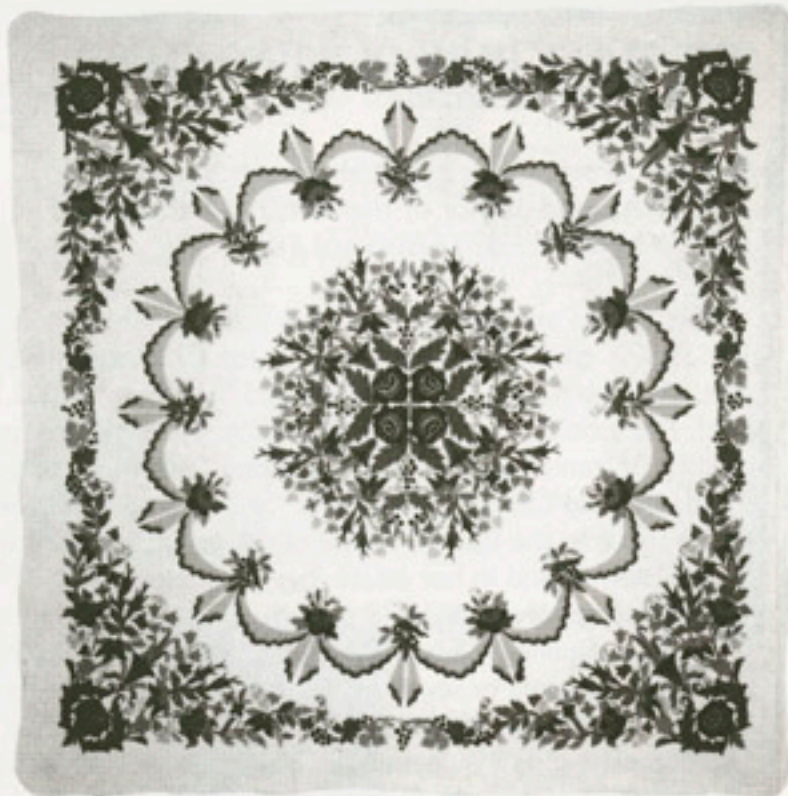
Where are those "Garden" quilts of the 1850's?
Another mystery!

"Paradise Garden" corner rose pattern





Photos showing RK's development of the "Paradise Garden" using water colors and sheets of brown wrapping paper.



List of Prizes awarded RK's "Garden Quilt".
 (From a notation on the back of an old envelope in RK's own handwriting.) Courtesy of Mary Kretsinger.

"Garden quilt"
 Fair Journal 5.
 Topeka 1st \$4.00
 Sweepstake 5.00
 Hutchinson \$4.00
 prize
 Sweepstake 5.00
 \$
 Hutchinson 4.00
 Sweepstake 5.00

 32.00
 Kansas Coll Show 15.

 47.

On The Bookshelf

AMERICAN PATCHWORK QUILT by Barbara Brackman, Spencer Museum of Art, Univ of Kansas, ©1987. 50 quilts (12 Rose Kretsinger) full & detail in color. Catalog of the Spencer Museum quilts that toured Japan. Text in Japanese and English. Softbound \$21.95 (postpaid) see: Classified.



The 10,000 estimated visitors who came to see the exhibition of quilts from the University of Kansas Spencer Museum of Art, were treated to quilts dating from 1820 to the 1940's. The show entitled "Beauty of the Frontier; American Patchwork Quilt" was held in April 1987 at Tobu Dept Store in Tokyo and circulated by Kokusai Art. This catalog is the result of the show.

It is a joy to see full and detail pictures of the quilts in the fine reproductions that we have come to expect of books printed in Japan. One can enjoy and appreciate the stitches and details of each quilt. Barbara Brackman's descriptions are detailed, e.g. the size of the quilting stitches in RK's quilts do not vary within her quilts but do vary from quilt to quilt. On one made in 1927 they average eight stitches to the inch, while in 1932 they average eleven, and in 1945 "Paradise Garden" the average is eight again. The text includes a wealth of background material that is easy to read and informative.

In Ms Brackman's opening essay on the Spencer Quilt Collection she describes it as "one of the best public collections of antique American quilts..." (it) includes examples in a wide range of styles from the late 18th century to mid-20th... strong in Kansas quilts, made here or brought to the state by pioneer families..." but representing a wide geographical range. She writes that the basis of the collection came from Sallie Casey Thayer who donated 46 quilts and was augmented by the Malcom-James family quilts and Mary Kretsinger who donated 14 of her mother's quilts. In addition Carrie Hall donated 844 patchwork blocks and one quilt plus her books, patterns and scrapbooks to the University of Kansas. More recently Elizabeth Szabronski donated a collection of published quilt material from the 1950's & 60's.

Unfortunately the "Paradise Garden" quilt, pictured on the cover, has had the white quilted border almost trimmed off and the quilt placed on point. This gives a distorted view of the beautiful quilt. One would not think of trimming a Rembrandt or a Degas, why oh why does anyone presume to think they can improve on a Rose Kretsinger design? Fortunately, you can always turn to No. 50 on the inside and see "Paradise Garden" as RK intended it to be seen.

After seeing the catalog one must agree with Mrs Brackman that the Spencer Museum of Art has a wonderful collection of quilts and is to be congratulated on this catalog!

Rose Kretsinger Selected Bibliography

Thanks to Cuesta Benberry and the Lyon County Historical Museum for their help in assembling this list. The Lyon County Historical Society has an extensive collection of clippings about Rose Kretsinger (see pg 24) which was used for background material but is not listed individually in this bibliography.

BRANDYWINE "Main Line Quilters Show..." by Jo Ann G Stolley, Oct '84

FARM JOURNAL "Blue Ribbon Quilts" by Reba Marshall ad for "Oriental Poppy" and "Old Spice Pink" Feb '49

GARDEN OF QUILTS, by Mary Eliz Johnson, Oxmoor House, Birmingham, AL @'85

THE GAZETTE, (Emporia, Ks)
"Emporian's Quilt Wins Prizes..." 9/20/46
"Rose G Kretsinger - Looking Back" 12/12/70
"Emporian Inducted into Quilters Hall of Fame" by Roberta Birk Jan 25/26 '86

Hall, Carrie A & Rose G Kretsinger, THE ROMANCE OF THE PATCHWORK QUILT...Caxton Printers, Ltd, ©1935

KANSAS QUILTS, (Exhibition Catalog) by Enola Gish, The Assoc of Community Arts Councils of Kansas. no date Plate Six

LADY'S CIRCLE PATCHWORK QUILTS, "Protecting the Past" Jun/Jul '87 pg 18, 19.

LAWRENCE DAILY JOURNAL-WORLD (Lawrence Ks) 1/25/73

NEEDLECRAFT FOR TODAY, "A Travelers' Guide to Needlecraft Collections" by Rachel Maines 1-2/80

NIMBLE NEEDLE TREASURES,
"My Mother's Quilts" by Ruth Snyder Fall '72
"Rose G Kretsinger, Artist & Quiltmaker" by Helen M Ericson. Winter '73

NOSTALGIA MAGAZINE, "One Kansas Quilter" by Valerie Mindel Oct-Nov '86

150 YEARS OF AMERICAN QUILTS, (Exhibition Catalog) The Univ of Kansas, '73 Text #96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 127, 128. Illus #125, 126, 130, 131

Orlofsky, Patsy & Myron, QUILTS IN AMERICA, MCGRAW HILL CO, NEW YORK, 1974

PATCH IN TIME, (exhibition catalogs) by J Gross,
©1973 "Calendula", "Paradise Garden" pg 16, 17
©1976, #16
©1979, #19, #20, #21, #22

QUILTER'S CHOICE, Helen Forseman Spencer Museum of Art, The Univ of Kansas, Lawrence, Ks, 1978. pg 48-62

QUILTER'S HALL OF FAME, sponsored by The Continental Quilting Congress, Inc '85

QUILTER'S JOURNAL, Vol 1 #1, "Evolution of a Quilt Design"

QUILT REFLECTIONS, Lyon Co Historical Society, 1983 pg 20

QUILTS OF THE WEST, (exhibition catalog) #12, #19, @1976

QNM: 21/22:18; 24:15; 41: cover, 10; 69:6 (see also 70:6); 85:15; 97:24-25, 29; 106:29; 121:23; 128:16-17; 134:5; 15:8, 11, 12, 18, 28; 168: 52; 177: 48-49.

THE WICHITA EAGLE and BEACON MAGAZINE,
12/27/70 "Rose Kretsinger Quilts..." by John P Simoni
12/23/73 "Quilting termed Great Art" by Dorothy Wood

WORLD OF QUILTS AT MEADOW BROOK HALL, Oakland Univ, Rochester, Michigan 1983 Exhibition Catalog

Classified

Advertising rates: 25 cents a word pre-paid.

POSTCARDS FROM SPENCER MUSEUM; Set of 3; Kretsinger's "Paradise Garden", Malcolm's "Sunflower" and a crazy quilt; Set of 3 - \$1.50 (postpaid). Prairie Flower Publishing, 500 Louisiana, Lawrence, KS 66044.

AMERICAN PATCHWORK QUILT: Spencer Museum of Art. New catalog of collection that features Kretsinger quilts and 38 others. Full color plus text by Barbara Brackman. Published by Kokusai Art, Tokyo. \$21.95 (postpaid) Spencer Museum Bookstore, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045.

BED AND BREAKFAST FOR QUILTERS available Washington D.C. area (Maryland, Virginia, ect.) reduced rates. Send SASE for info to MarySue Hannan, 5801 Nebraska, Washington D.C., 20015.

QUILTS OF TENNESSEE: Images of Domestic Life prior to 1930 by Bets Ramsey & Merikay Waldvogel. Hardcover, \$19.95 + \$1.75 shipping. Tenn residents add sales tax. To order: Rutledge Hill Press, PO Box 140483, Nashville, TN 37214.

FOR SALE: KANSAS STAR QUILT PATTERN INDEX & HISTORY. KCS quilt patterns publ 1928-1961. (No sketches or patterns) \$11.00 incl. postage. Wilene Smith, 815 W 61st, North Wichita, KS 67204.

MISSOURI HERITAGE QUILTS by Bettina Havig. A catalog of the 1985 Exhibition quilts of the Missouri Heritage Project. \$14.95 + \$1.25 post and handling to The Quilt Cottage, 1108 Sunset Lane, Columbia, MO 65203.

FOR SALE: Notecards with quilts from the DAR Museum collection on heavy ivory folders. Brief individual biographies of quiltmakers on back. Send SASE envelope for info to DAR Museum, 1776 D Street, Washington DC, 20006.

FOR SALE: An Encyclopedia of Pieced Quilt Patterns. 8 volumes and a large loose-leaf binder for \$50.00 incl postage. Prairie Flower Publishing, 500 Louisiana St. QJ, Lawrence, KS 66044.

FOR SALE: Exhibition catalog of "New Quilts of the Mid-South". 8 quilts in color, 11 in B & W. To order: \$7.00 + .75 post and handling. The Hunter Museum of Art Gift Shop, 10 Bluff View, Chattanooga, Tn 37403.

FOR SALE: Limited supply Historic Preservation Jan/Mar '72 "American Quilts as Visual Objects, A Personal View" by Jonathon Holstein. Pg 28 thru 33 (7 quilts full in color + article.) \$2.00 incl post & handling, Box 5427, Mill Valley, CA 94942.

FOR SALE: "Vernice's Rose Quilt Pattern Book". (1983 Santa Rosa Guild opportunity quilt) 11 full size original rose patterns plus a large center medallion to make a 78" x 95" quilt. Yardage requirements & border designs incl. Blocks would be appropriate for pillows etc. \$2.50 incl post S.R.Q.G., PO Box 9251, Santa Rosa, CA 95405.

FOR SALE: "The Applique Book" by Charlotte Patera, Creative Home Library @ 1947. Out of print and still one of the best books on applique. \$25.00 includes postage. Journal, Box 5427, Mill Valley, CA 94942.

QUILT LIBRARY with Cuesta Benberry, Joyce Gross, Bettina Havig and Barbara Brackman at QUILTERS' GETAWAY, Point Bonita, (North of the Golden Gate Bridge) Jan 24-29, '88. Gross Collection of quilts, quilt blocks, swatches, slides, photographs, early periodicals, memorabilia from famous quilt people, diaries, correspondence, out-of-print quilt catalogs and much, much more. Day students accommodated. For info: MVQA, Box 5427, Mill Valley, CA 94942 or (415) 388-7578.

QUILT REFLECTIONS catalog from '83 Lyon Co Historical Museum quilt exhibition, Emporia KS. Drawings of blocks, descriptions, & history of quilts as well as copies of clippings from the Lyon County Historical Museum archives and the Gilson scrapbooks 1929-1962. \$2.00 (postpaid) Lyon County Historical Museum. 118 East 6th Avenue, Emporia, KS 66801

PINE EISFELLER'S GARDEN Pattern \$2.50 incl post & handling. F. Smith, 175 Manor Dr., Mill Valley, CA 94941

MOURNING AND MEMORIAL QUILTS *continued from pg 10*

lady tells of watching her mother and other neighbor ladies work all day quilting the casket lining and a tiny quilt for a neighbor's baby who had died.

An Amish quilt of unusual dimensions (38" x 92") was made around 1900. Ron & Marilyn Kowaleski, the owners suggest that it may have been intended for a coffin cover*.

Joyce Gross has in her collection an elaborate pall made for the Loyal Order of Odd Fellows. This beautiful and unusual cover is extensively appliqued with signs and symbols, among them the three linked chains, associated with this organization.

Memorial quilts play an important role in modern day North American Indian funeral ceremonies. According to custom, a memorial dinner and "give-away" takes place on the first anniversary of the person's death. At this time,

family and friends receive gifts in honor of the deceased and as a sign of gratitude and appreciation for their help during the family's time of sorrow. Frequently these gifts take the form of quilts, usually done in some version of the "Lone Star" pattern. Stars have long played an important role in the cultural and religious rites of the North American Indians and the design has come to be identified with their cultural activities.

With the passing of the Victorian era and the coming of more "modern" times, outward signs of mourning gradually began to disappear. Today, few remain. Like the hair wreath and waxed funeral flowers, the mourning quilt has become a thing of the past.

*A GALLERY OF AMISH QUILTS by Bishop & Safanda, E P Dutton, NY @1976. pg 62.

Orchid Wreath References

4/1/30 KANSAS CITY STAR "History in Old Quilts"

"Eleven applique quilts sent by Mrs. W E Kretsinger, Emporia Kas, were marvels of color and artistry of pattern. One, in an orchid design on white, resembled a painting."

4/24/30 (Source Unknown)

"Emporia got in twice on the society page of Monday's Topeka Capital where paragraphs appeared concerning quilts exhibited by Mrs W S Kretsinger and Mrs W H Rich of Emporia at a meeting of the Topeka Woman's club last week. The paragraph...follows:

"The largest display of modern quilts was that of Mrs William Kretsinger...who brought 10 from her home to add to the show. Some of these were modern reproductions of antique patterns and some original designs by Mrs Kretsinger. Notable...was the orchid wreath pattern, which contained 18 different shades of purple and was one of the most beautiful shown..."

9/16/30 EMPORIA DAILY GAZETTE

"A purple orchid in the window of an Emporia store recently proved the inspiration for achievement to Mrs W S Kretsinger, 911 Market. The orchid was not a real flower, just a picture on a cardboard advertisement, but the honor is a real one, for Mrs Kretsinger last week received the grand sweepstakes prize for the finest quilt exhibited at the Kansas free fair at Topeka. The quilt, which was entered in competition with several hundred others, received first place as the best original quilt shown at the fair. It then won first in competition with all other blue ribbon quilts..."

The sweepstakes winner was designed by Mrs Kretsinger, who used the orchid advertisement as the motif, and harmonized 16 colors in the final effect. Single orchids in shades of pink, purple and lavender are surrounded by leaves in five shades of green, and groups of yellow butterflies sweep in and out among the flowers.

The quilt, which already had been displayed by the Soroptimist club in Kansas City and at a quilt display arranged by the Topeka Women's City club, has been sent to Hutchinson, where it will appear at the Hutchinson fair..."

4/17/31 (Source Unknown)

"The Research Club, an Emporia study club, has been awarded first place in a quilt show held recently in Hutchinson...Mrs W S Kretsinger entered five quilts for the Research club, of which she is a member. The quilts were of the following patterns: Indiana wreath, wreath of orchids, pride of Iowa, wreath of roses and rose tree...the wreath of orchids won the first prize at both state fairs and the sweepstakes prize last year."

9/4/32 KANSAS CITY STAR "A New Book on Quilts"

"A collection of about a dozen of the quilts made by Mrs Kretsinger was exhibited...in a quilt display at the Kansas City Art Institute several years ago...One of her quilts that has excited much comment is the orchid wreath in three shades of purple, three of green, yellow, pink, cerise and black..."

THE ROMANCE OF THE PATCHWORK QUILT by Hall & Kretsinger Plate CX @1935 and dust jacket of "Orchid Wreath, Collection of Mrs Rose Kretsinger"

"This quilt, in design, color scheme, and quilting is entirely original and is Mrs Kretsinger's most beautiful creation. It is a veritable 'picture of patches.' The colors used are several shades of purple, three shades of green, yellow, pink, cerise, and black. The artistic color combination and the exquisite needlework is too fine to show in the photograph. It must be seen to be appreciated. Mrs Kretsinger, an artist in many other lines as well as with the needle, has made all of the quilts in her collection."

150 YEARS OF AMERICAN QUILTS

Univ of Kansas, 1973. Catalog of the exhibition of the same name.

"The inspiration for this design came from a poster of orchids which Rose Kretsinger saw in an ice cream parlor in Emporia."

QUILTERS' CHOICE: Quilts from the Museum Collection. Univ of Kansas 1978. Catalog of the exhibition of the same name. Picture of full quilt in black and white.

"Realistic orchids, intertwined leaves and bold butterflies grace this design, finished in the second quarter of the 20th century. One of Rose G Kretsinger's most imaginative design..."

NIMBLE NEEDLE TREASURES Win '73 "Rose G Kretsinger" by Helen M Ericson

"... Mrs Danner... visited (RK's) home and saw all the...quilts, especially remembering the 'Orchid Wreath'...."

"In April 1971 Mrs Ericson was Chairman of a Quilt Show at the First Congregational Church in Emporia where RK had been a member. Two of her quilts, the 'Orchid Wreath' and 'Paradise Garden' were shown.

"...Upon publication of the book (THE ROMANCE OF THE PATCHWORK QUILT) the 'Orchid Wreath' was on display in Emery-Bird-Thayer Dept Store in Kansas City, Missouri and someone sketched and copied it. There was a question of whether Rose could sue the woman, but her lawyer husband pointed out that the design had not been copied exactly and actually copyrights are secured on paper designs."

"...She sold some patterns, hand drawing them for \$3.00 each. She also shared them with her friends."*

May 17, 1978 THE GAZETTE (Emporia, Kansas)

"One of the (Mrs Kretsinger) quilts 'Orchid Wreath' has been on continuous display" (since her collection was donated to Kansas University by her daughter, Mary Kretsinger.)

*Charlotte Jane Whitehill's adaptation of the "Orchid Wreath" is now part of the Denver Art Museum collection. Another adaptation was published in "Jazz-Age Quilts" by Penny McMorris in CREATIVE IDEAS FOR LIVING (May 1987)



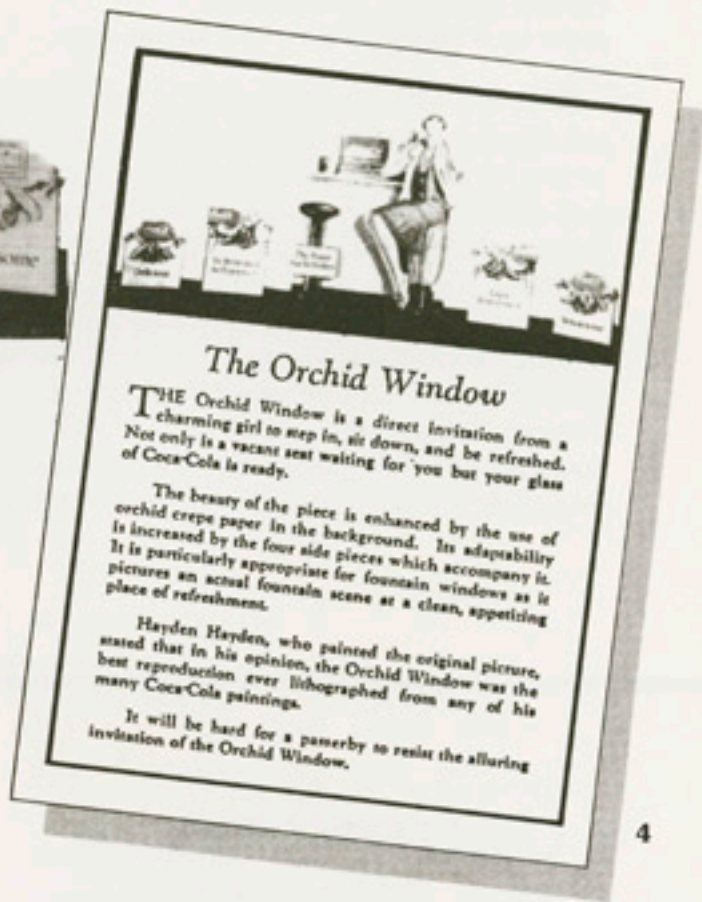
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Development Details of the Orchid Wreath Quilt

See also page 21 & 22

1. Detail of the Orchid Wreath Quilt by RK.
2. Fragment of the Coca-Cola "Orchid" poster used by RK as an inspiration for her "Orchid Wreath" quilt.
3. Enlarged section from the "Orchid Window" ad.
4. Ad for the "Orchid Window" which the Coca-Cola Co published to promote their products. MK saw the window and knew she wanted an "Orchid Quilt".
5. Orchid Festoon used in 1929 by soda fountain operators to promote Coca-Cola products. Originally thought to be inspiration for the Orchid Wreath quilt.

5





Sue Siebert (left) Registrar/Education and Gayle Graham, Librarian/Archivist of the Lyon County Historical Society Museum in Emporia, Kansas do some research in the Gilson Clipping Scrapbooks. Some of the scrapbooks are shown on the shelves behind them. Photos by Bettina Haug.

Gilson Clipping Scrapbook at the Lyon County Historical Society Museum

Back in 1930 Lulu Purdy Gilson of Emporia, Kansas started clipping newspaper articles about families in town as a project of the Historical Society. The clippings were arranged alphabetically by family and kept in her home until her death in 1960 when they were moved to the Lyon County Historical Museum in the old Carnegie Library Building.

Today there are twenty-four 10" x 18" scrapbooks, some two feet thick which add up to 26 linear feet of shelf space. Gayle Graham, librarian & archivist, estimates 9-10,000 Emporia families are represented in the Gilson scrapbooks covering over 100 years of Lyon County history. One can learn that the Kretsinger lilac bush bloomed on the hottest

Sept 23 on record and that RK inherited \$200 from Mary Isaelle (sic) Smith thereby incurring a \$10.00 inheritance tax fee. Mary Kretsinger was considered "one of the top craftsman in the country!" (by Mr Eppink, head of the Art Department at the Emporia State Teacher's College) and was selected as the College of Emporia's candidate for Drake relays queen in 1934. W S Kretsinger was married for the first time to Helen Blanche Dodge Oct 27, 1907. She died three years later. Mr Kretsinger was very active in the Republican party running for office on numerous occasions. Clippings about other families in Lyon County are just as detailed.

At the same time Lucina Jones was compiling scrapbooks concerning general local history subjects such as hospitals, libraries, local lakes, parks, schools, churches, theatres, weather and organizations. All of the scrapbooks are appreciated and used by genealogists, researchers, high school and university students working on special projects.

In the near future the staff expects to put the clippings on microfilm because the scrapbooks are awkward to handle and will wear out if they continue to be handled. It is a small museum but the staff is both knowledgeable and determined to carry out correct conservation practices.

All of RK's quilts are at the Spencer Museum of Art in Lawrence, Kansas, but Mary Kretsinger recently donated RK's prize ribbons and other memorabilia to the museum. An exhibition to honor RK is in the planning stage.

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