

# NEWS RELEASE

## **Historic and Contemporary Quilts In Major Exhibition in Flemington; Lecture and Seminar Also Planned**



In the continuing celebration of Hunterdon County NJ's 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a major exhibition of quilts will be exhibited in the Assembly Room of County Building One, Route 12 in Flemington for the nine days from Saturday, April 5 to Sunday, April 13. Hours are from 10am to 4pm each day with extended hours to 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 8 and Saturday, April 12. There is adequate parking and admission is free.

The Exhibition, *Common Threads: Quilting Traditions in Hunterdon County, NJ* is made possible in large part by a grant from the Quilter's Guild of Dallas Helena Hibbs Endowment Fund.

Judy Grow, Curator of Textiles at the Hunterdon County Historic Society and a Flemington resident, is Curator of the exhibition. Experienced quilters will serve as docents for the exhibition.

Forty-eight quilts will be exhibited, all with a Hunterdon County connection. Most will be historic quilts; many are signature quilts associated with churches and families of note, and many date from the 1840s. The earliest quilt in the exhibition is signed and dated 1832. Three historic societies, two museums, a foundation and private collectors are lending quilts. Two Hunterdon quilts are coming home from Utah and Indiana.

The art and craft of quilting has probably never had as many active participants as it has today when it is a multi-billion-dollar industry. Hunterdon County is home to two major quilt guilds and so four contemporary quilts will be included in the exhibition to show the continuity of endeavor and design.

A 56-page four-color catalog of the exhibition will sell for \$10. All photography for the catalog was donated by Bob Heil at Black Lab Studio & Imaging, 24A Main Street in Flemington, NJ.



Curator Judy Grow will give a free lecture on the “History of Quilts” on Tuesday, April 8 at the Library in the Route 12 County Complex at 7 pm. The quilt exhibition will remain open that day until 6:30 pm to allow attendance at both events.

A full-day seminar with four nationally-known speakers will be held at the Baptistown Baptist Church, 1040 Route 519 in Baptistown on Saturday, April 12 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. The speakers and their topics are: Sue Reich (Washington Depot, CT) on “Quiltings, Frolicks and Bees: 100 Years of Signature Quilts”; Karen Dever (Moorestown, NJ) on “My Garden of Quilts - Botanical Textiles”; Newbie Richardson (Alexandria, VA) on “Quilts in Context”; and Dana Balsamo (Princeton, NJ) on "Evaluating Your Quilts...is it a Treasure?". Attendees are invited to bring their own antique quilts for evaluation. A seminar fee of \$50.00 includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Register by sending a check for the full amount made out to the Hunterdon Tri-Centennial Committee to Judy Grow – Seminar, 76 Old Clinton Road, Flemington NJ 08822. Space will be limited to the first 50 to register.

Besides private quilters and collectors, quilts in the exhibition are on loan from The Astle-Alpaugh Family Foundation in Annandale, the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead in Stanton, the Hunterdon County Historical Society in Flemington, the Lambertville Historical Society in

Lambertville, the Red Mill Museum Village in Clinton, and the Township of Lebanon Museum in Hampton.

For more Information, email [judy.grow@comcast.net](mailto:judy.grow@comcast.net) with Common Threads Quilt Exhibition in the subject line.

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**CAPTIONS FOR ATTACHED QUILT PHOTOS:**

**Mathematical Star with Satellite Stars, 1842, Hunterdon County Historical Society, Flemington, NJ.**

**Carpenter's Square, c.1890, The Astle-Alpaugh Family Foundation, Annandale, NJ.**