



P.O. Box 376, Greenville, Illinois 62246

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Joyce Skinner This Year's Featured Quilter at BCHS Quilt Show

The 15th Annual Bond County Historical Society Quilt Show is Saturday, March 18, 2017, from 9:00am until the viewers' choice prizes are awarded at 4:00pm at the Greenville Free Methodist Church, 1367 Route 140, Greenville, Illinois. Admission to the quilt show is \$3.00. Over 100 hand quilted, machine quilted, wall/baby quilts and contemporary artistic quilts will be on display.

For the eleventh consecutive year, a Bond County quilter will be featured. In 2017, it is Joyce Skinner of rural Pocahontas and member of the Black Diamond Quilt Guild. Joyce and her husband Wayne live on a farm west of Greenville. She taught school in Bond County – two years teaching music in eight rural county schools, twenty-three years teaching first grade, and thirteen years teaching special education. She also spent one year in Alaska with her husband while he was in the service! She enjoys reading and proudly directed music and choir at the Pocahontas Methodist Church for two decades. Spending time with all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren is a very important part of her life, and she regularly sees quite a bit of the seven who live in Greenville.

Watching her mother who sewed “all the time,” Joyce started sewing doll clothes at eight years old before moving on to making clothes for herself. Her very first quilt came out of a project begun in her two daughters' Home Ec classes. They started embroidering quilt blocks, and never finished, so Joyce finished the embroidery and setting together, and had a lady quilt them. Her daughters, Charlotte and Cindy, today both live in Texas and are themselves involved in sewing.

She took up quilt work again when she decided to make baby quilts for her grandchildren. Her goal for each grandchild has been to gift a quilt for a first college dorm room, a marriage, and a baby quilt for their first born. Joyce has made quilts for all of her seven grandchildren, her first great-grandchildren, and also for nieces and nephews.

Joyce has mostly crafted “pieced” quilts, and also a few embroidered and appliquéd, making just the tops and having them quilted and finished by others, primarily by hand quilter Dorothy Haberer. Joyce usually makes new patterns, only repeating two

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or three times. "I like a challenge!" she proclaims. One of her favorite techniques is using 1 ½ inch squares and making them into animal shapes. She has made an elephant, rabbit, monkey, duck, and is currently working on a turtle.

She also has sewed quilt tops and quilted bags for children hospitalized because of cancer and made lap robes for nursing homes. The lap quilts usually employ simple designs and are tied rather than quilted.

Joyce Skinner will have over forty of her quilts spotlighted in the special display; many others are with family around the country.

Along with displays, quilt show patrons will also find quilt/handicraft vendors, antique quilt bed turnings at 10am and 2pm, and three different technique/project demonstrations at 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

Tickets are still available for a ruby and silver log cabin design raffle quilt created by Shirley Pustelnik.

For more information about the Quilt Show, contact Nadine Baldwin (618) 567-1948, or Jan Eyman (618) 326-7343, or visit www.bondcountyhistorical.org