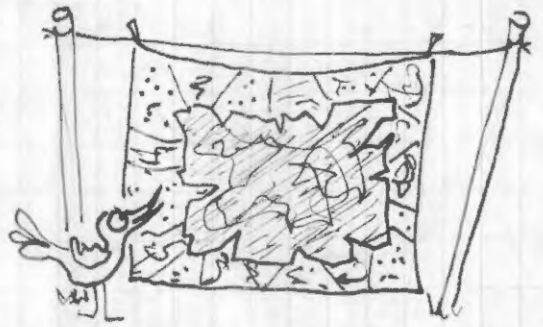


THE EMPTY NEST NEWSLETTER

(but sent w/ Oct. issue)

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"Sing of brooks, of blossoms, birds and bowers."
-- Robert Herrick



WHAT GARY LARSON (PROBABLY) DOESN'T KNOW:



"She's lookin' good, Vern!"

That all the bull studs, University of Ws, A BS, etc., have all been using artificial cows since the 30's!

SMITHSONIAN mag for June '87: Has a globular quilt on the cover, & an article on quilting. The ball-quilt is a winner in the Quilt International '87 show, & the magazine reports:

These are the new art quilts, made by studio quilt artists, many of them also potters, graphic designers and printmakers. In addition to calico and log cabin strips, they are working with assemblages of paper fabric, metal, paint, wood, beads, found objects, silk-screening and color xerography. The quilts they turn out are always original, often provocative, occasionally beautiful.

Already the art quilt appears to be snubbing its country cousin by having its own exclusive show. Two years ago, the biannual Quilt National, held in Athens, Ohio, drew more than 900 works from 400 art quilters in 44 states and eight countries. More of everything is

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DAMARIS' QUILT FIRST TO GO!

Athens, O. This press was there, to see the opening of the classy Quilt National '87 in the marvelous Dairy Barn near the Ohio U. campus. The barn was filled with light & excitement: 90 specimens of modern fiber art; 37 artists managed to attend the opening, including quilters from France, Germany, Japan & Alaska. A video tape was made, a violinist played, tidbits were served, awards given. And then a banquet. Damaris didn't win an award, but was one of 3 given special mention in the slick-paper booklet of the show, & her quilt got a full page + an insert close-up. And, her quilt was the 1st sold, to a quilt-connoisseur couple from NYC, before the show even opened! The other quilters there told Dami she's pricing her work too low (too high for D!) Now that she's been in an international show, & a well known private collection, she may raise her prices! Jackie, Damaris & Suzi M camped overnight at a state park near Athens, JJ gives special thanks to Ellie J. for staying with Grandma at the hospital, freeing Jackie to dash to Ohio.

UPDATE ^(out of date) ON GRANDMA

Beloit The news ain't good but it ain't all bad. Contrary to the doctors' end-of-first-week predictions, Grandma is hanging in there. Her heart has stabilized, there's no evidence of any more tiny strokes, her mind is confused some, but clear a good share of the time. There was no second operation & her hip isn't set, so she has pain, & won't walk again (unless at some future date there is an op., not likely.) She's off the intensive care unit, & doctors are talking abt her leaving the hospital. Problem: to maintain her nourishment. She's coming to the end of veins for her IVs, and eats practically nothing. So the family is faced with various options: a nasal feeding tube, or direct stomach feeding, or no intervention at all: but try to get her to eat enough on her own, which wasn't easy before her fall. She's still on her marvelous air bed, which is preserving her fragile skin. She has a mild case of shingles on her shoulder. None of the family wants Mom to go to an intermediate care place, or nursing home, so we're trying to figure how to have her at home. Cover misses her & vice versa! Grandma's spirits sometime falter. Do telephone & write.



Smithsonian, con't:

expected at the next one, being held this June 6 to July 5. A determined lack of inhibition appears to be the main thing the show's works have in common. Hilary Fletcher, coordinator of the show, is circumspect in defining them. "Nearly all of the works will be pieces of fabric that are combined, layered and bound together by stitches," she says. "They are quilts by structure, not by function." That should cover quilts with titles as bewildering and diverse as *Hermeneutics*, *Astral Macaroni with Blueberry Vinaigrette*, and *Windfalls of My Mind*.

From the "Jurors' Comments", preface to the handsome Quilt International book:

Underlining a thought expressed by Knodel, Myers commented that the jury "did not view many radical departures from the fabric/batt/fabric format that also contained a solid integrity of image-making." Exceptions she pointed to include Virginia Jacobs' "Krakow Kabuki Waltz," Susan Shie's "Neighborhood with Comet Scar," and Damaris Jackson's "Lines from the Park."

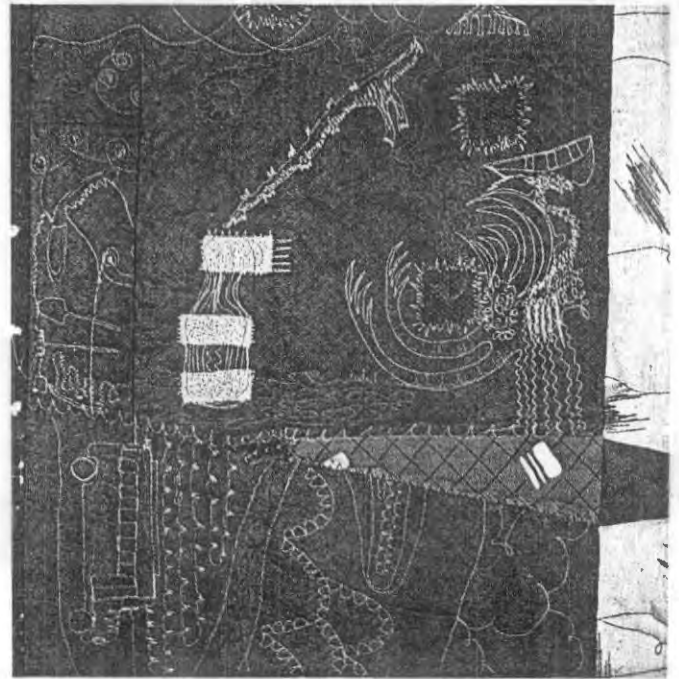
"These pieces represent a certain layering of elements that elevates them: beyond their initial impact, they hold my interest. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts," Myers said.

From Demi's full page in the Q.I. 87 book:

Damaris Jackson
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Lines from the Park

Calico and upholstery cottons, polyester batting, buttons and brooches. "Drawing" with a long-arm darning machine, piecing, appliqué. Trees are discharge dyed and cut away. Border has two layers of batting. 83" x 98"

The front of this quilt is a variation on crazy quilting; the back a variation on the Amish bars design. The stitching on the crazy quilt patches began as experiments in doodling and evolved into scenes suggested by the park near my house. The park theme unifies my interest in portraying trees, people and animals, and it connects me with my neighborhood. The principal challenge was in making the center fabric and design work without overpowering the border. I did not want a "picture" in a frame.



Detail

In the Q.I. book Demi's whole quilt is

shown, full page, then at the bottom is added the above detail. It won't print well for ENM., sorry!



The livestock would gather every morning, hoping for one of Farmer Dan's popular "airplane" rides.

