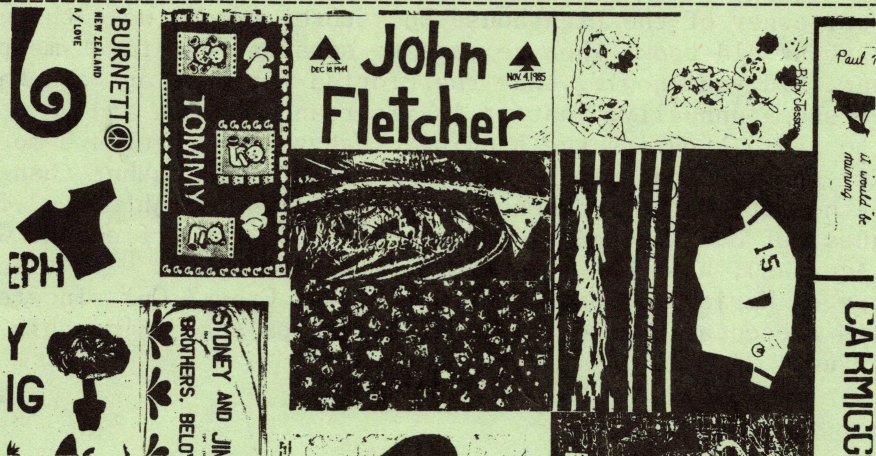


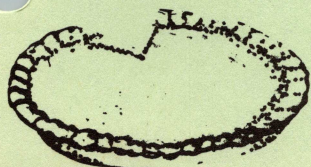
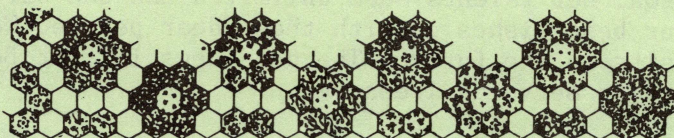
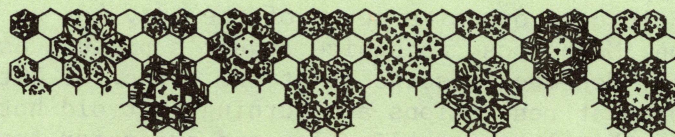
THE GULFPORT HISTORIAN

VOLUME 29 NEWSLETTER OF THE GULFPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY November 1989

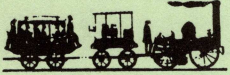


This month our museum will feature a lovely display of quilts. One very special quilt exhibited in Tampa last Spring is the NAMES Project Quilt. It is composed of thousands of fabric panels, each bearing the name of an individual lost to AIDS. Designed and completed in homes across America by friends and families of people killed by AIDS, the panels personalize this tragedy beyond the emptiness of numbers.

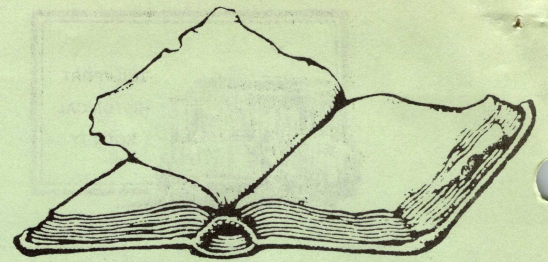
THE GULFPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 5152
Gulfport, FL 33737



LONG AGO BOOKS



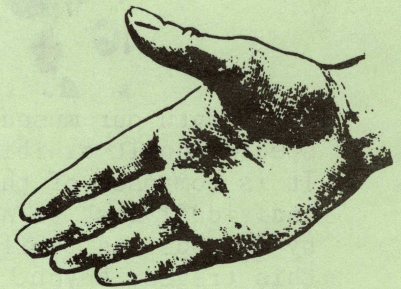
WHAT A WAY TO BEGIN....



Mike Slicker, owner of the Lighthouse Bookstore, taught us a thing or two (or fifty) about old books when he came to speak at our first meeting of the 1989-90 year. Did you know....that the Florida Antiquarian Book Fair is held in St. Petersburg annually? That it is important to open and hold a book at a 90° angle to avoid breaking the binding? That yellow pages are more a sign of poor quality paper (wood pulp paper, high in acidity) rather than old age or value? That no title page can denote a book of considerable age? That this generous guest of ours passed around his 1478 book by Alfred the Great (teacher of Thomas Aquinas), his book of woodcut prints by Albert Dürer, and his first edition copy of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' Cross Creek? Our sincerest thanks to Mike for his presentation and to Allean Davis for scheduling this fascinating speaker for us.



POINTS OF ORDER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Thanks to our City Manager and Council, our museum is as safe and beautiful outside as it is inside. The new paint and repaired roof give us more than a "touch of class".

Membership Chairperson Dick Bullis, when asked how many members we have said, "not nearly enough and I strongly advise paying life dues to avoid having to pay annually". Dick gave us an attractive music box to be won by a lucky person on Nostalgia Day. We'll sell "opportunities to help the budget" at meetings and special events until April.

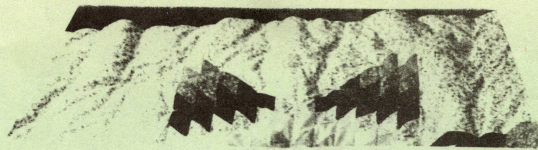
Regarding this year's Gulfport Calendar, we believe many of you know some of the people in pictures opposite seven of the ads. Let us know and we'll pass on the information. Maybe you recognize August's picture as being what is now 5445 Shore Boulevard. December's scene is at the corner of 30th Ave. S and Beach Boulevard where present renovations are turning that old hotel into new apartments. We are proud of this latest publication and are eager for your feedback and suggestions for the future.

Bad news and good news. For us it is the former in that Johanna Schneidt and her mother are moving to North Carolina at the end of this month, to be nearer other family members. We are not alone in having come to rely on this capable, caring and giving person. Her talents seem unlimited and she offers them constantly to help others. Our best wishes go with these dear people. We'll miss them and hope for two-way visits in the future. The good news is that Bob Easter has been elected by the Board to serve as Treasurer.

When some groups are bemoaning the lack of "some younger people" on their Boards, we are especially fortunate to have at least five who qualify in that enviable position!

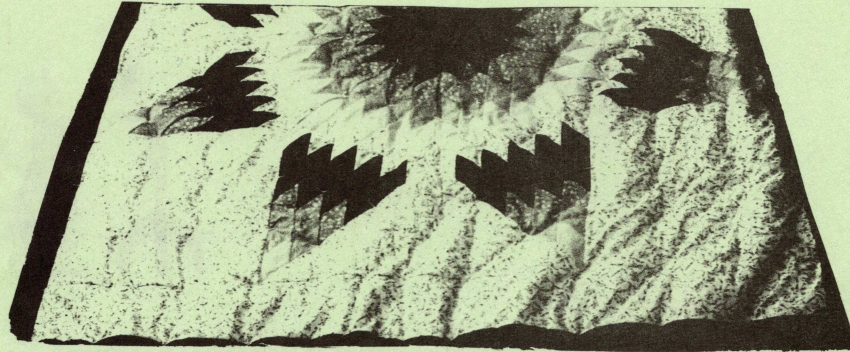
Fran Purdy

Consider
THE POSSIBILITIES

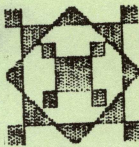
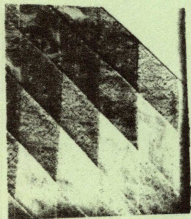


BOARD BULLETIN

The Board of Directors at it's November 2nd meeting voted to commission the designing and production of a redwood, sandblasted sign denoting "The Gulfport Historical Museum" to Danny Kurant. Calendar and book sales complemented by dues and donations now allow us to announce our Museum with style. Thanks to Lois Cordasco for researching local sign makers.



AT THE MUSEUM



You are cordially invited to view one professional looking quilt exhibition produced and directed by Curator Jan Cook and Assistant Curator, Lois Cordasco. The Museum is open Wednesdays and Saturdays 2-4PM. The display will continue throughout the month of December. Lois contributed the following information that is hoped will enhance your tour of this exhibit.

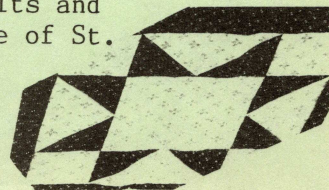
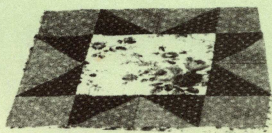
A quilt is anything made of two pieces of material with padding between, held together by stitches. If we were to end our definition on so utilitarian a note, we would miss the fascinating story of a craft that touches on many aspects of early American life.

In the beginning, quilts were an absolute necessity. The important force for all craftwork was immediate need and the quick response to meet that need. The objects made, whether chairs, beds or quilts were of simple strength, fine quality and individual design. Between cooking, nursing the sick, housekeeping, spinning and weaving, the women pioneers needed courage and industry to survive the huge workload and harsh winters of New England. They often found they did not have the luxury of extra material with which to make quilts. As clothing, therefore, wore out, they cut away the threadbare parts and saved every tiny piece to use in making bed coverings. This is how the crazy quilt originated. In later, better times, crazy quilts were made from scraps of silk, velvet, brocade, plush satin, wool and linen.

Women have continued to make quilts. They are truly conceived in love and borne from many hours of labor. Quilts embody lives-fortitude, character, beauty, humor, history and art. No wonder they are treasured heirlooms to hold for but a moment in time and then pass on.

Compiled from American Quilts by E. W. Robertson, Award Winning Quilts by E. C. Pfoir and Crazy Quilts by P. McMorris.

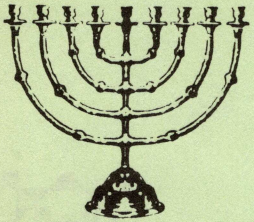
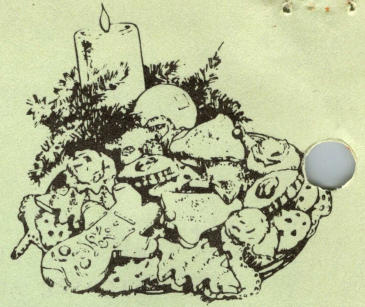
The Gulfport Library has an outstanding collection of books about quilts and quilting many of which have been given by the Suncoast Quilters Circle of St. Petersburg



Coming Events

OUR DECEMBER MEETING - ALWAYS A FESTIVE GATHERING

On December 6th at 7:30PM at the museum we will celebrate the specialness of the season. Come enjoy an old fashioned sense of community. Tree decorating, music and refreshments will enhance our time of particular remembrance.



SPEAKING OF OLD FASHIONED.....

Our 3rd Annual Old Fashioned Holiday will be held Sunday afternoon from 12 noon to 4PM. Flag raising at Scout Hall will be followed by the cutting of the cake by Mayor Williams. We will be entertained by the Community Players, children from our community center, The Holy Name school choir, The Country Fun Cloggers and singers from the Open Bible Church. Elsie Miskovic will be at the piano and Bob Easter will be at our new public address system as emcee. Santa will fly in to greet everyone. Handcrafts will be available for purchase. The United Methodist men will sell hot dogs and sodas and the Scouts will wind up the afternoon with a marshmallow roast. "Fundification" Chairperson Anita Simonds will coordinate the selling of beautiful boxed note paper decorated with a sketch of the museum done by local artist Howard Shearer. Selling for only \$3, this is another fine gift to give yourself or another. Holiday Committee members Lois Cordasco, Cathy Hickman, Mary Atkinson and Kay Higgins invite you to come, bring neighbors and have a real fine old town time.



QUOTE OF NOTE

"I get by with a little help from my friends"

John Lennon/Paul McCartney

Our thanks, Johanna, for your help, for touching our lives as you have.

