



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Susan Heebink 740-380-2752

Vinton County Quilts at the Washboard Music Festival

The 2009 Washboard Music Festival Quilt Show is honored to feature more than 40 quilts from the Country Roads Quilt Guild of Vinton County. This talented group of 20 ladies from in and around Vinton County gathers monthly to share their expertise and friendship in the time honored craft of quilting. They help each other solve quilting problems, they teach other, they inspire each other and they challenge each other. They have been together for 15 years and 2009 is their 16th year to sponsor the quilt show at the Wild Turkey Festival in McArthur. These ladies are busy in many community events. The Guild not only makes family heirlooms, they have quilt shows at the Herbert Wescoat Library to honor members, they decorate a Christmas tree for the local Festival of the Trees and they are helping to recondition the stage curtain at the Community Building.

One special quilt will be the focus of the Bowen House Literary evening on Thursday, June 11 at 6:30. Ann Faris, President of the Country Roads Quilt Guild, will present "Hidden in Plain View". Displaying a quilt similar to one that may have been used, Ann tells the story of how quilts hanging on clothes lines helped to direct slaves to safe houses when the underground railroad was active. Specifically designed quilt squares directed runaway slaves away from danger and sent them northward to freedom. You may also see this significant quilt during the Washboard Festival Quilt Show from June 13 – June 27.

Also featured at the Festival Quilt Show will be "A Stitch in Time: The Quilt Barns of Vinton County". The trail features 27 barns throughout Vinton County each decorated with a large, painted quilt block. This is part of more than 1,000 Quilt Barns in Ohio and 21 other states. The quilt barn trails stem from one woman's dream to honor her mother. Donna Sue Groves (Adams County, Ohio) painted the first quilt barn in 2001 to honor her mother Nina Maxine Groves, a master quilter. The dream continues.

We hope to see you on Thursday, June 11 for the Hidden in Plain View presentation. And please stop by and see the beautiful quilts from Vinton County during regular Bowen House hours in June with extended hours on June 19-20.

Please go to www.washboardmusicfestival.com for more Festival information.