

# Their Efforts Preserve Past

**COLORADO QUILTING COUNCIL**  
 "Quilt Colorado '82" a symposium of workshops and lectures by nationally known quilting professionals, and an introduction to some contemporary Colorado teachers, will be held July 22-27, at the University of Denver. It is sponsored by Colorado Quilting Council, a statewide organization. CQC meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of each month. The location varies, and has included Loveland, Sterling, Buffalo Creek and Colorado Springs as well as the metropolitan Denver area.

Its goals are to assist in preserving the heritage of quilting, to be a source of information and inspiration, and to encourage excellence in quilting and related arts.

Dues are \$12 per year, payable to: Opal M. Frey, First Vice President for Membership, 1428 W. 52nd Ave., Arvada, CO 80002.

In conjunction with the CQC symposium, a "Colorado Now" Quilt Show will include 50 of Colorado's choicest quilts made by Council members and/or Colorado residents, Wednesday, July 7, through Sunday, July 25, at Schwayder Art Gallery, University of Denver. This will be a juried show and is open to the public.

**MARY STANLEY QUILT EXHIBIT**  
 "The Mary Stanley Quilt Exhibit," will be shown at Lincoln Center, Fort Collins, July 12-27. Auriel Sandstead will exhibit quilts of three generations of the Mary Stanley family from the northern plains town of Keota. For information call the Lincoln Center, 1-484-4220.

**ARVADA CENTER QUILT SHOW**  
 "Three Centuries of Quilts," a major exhibition which has been shown throughout the United States since the beginning of the year, will open at Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd, on Tuesday, June 15, with a strawberries-and-cream reception. An award-winning film, "Quilts in Women's Lives," will be shown at 8 p.m. The quilt exhibit will continue through Sept. 15.

This national show was coordinated by Mary Woodard Davis of Textile Workshops, Santa Fe, NM.

Among the pieced and appliqued covers will be a "Mariner's Compass," with petit point motifs, which tells the history of the Ely Howe and Buckminster Fuller families, members of whom were passengers on the Mayflower. The quilt was finished in 1840, soon after the invention of Mr. Howe's sewing machine.

Running concurrently with the national show will be "Local Color," featuring quilts from Colorado's colorful past.

Gallery/Museum hours at the Arvada Center are: Monday through Wednesday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Center will be closed Sundays during July and August. For additional information, call 431-3080.

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**WANTED** - Passes, old tickets, timetables, stock and bond certificates of railroads of Colorado. Will buy or trade books from stock of 600 railroad titles. Colorado Railroad Museum, Box 10, Golden, Colo. 80401. 279-4951.

**FAST, EXPERIENCED** researcher can research Colorado items for you. \$10.00 per hour. Gwyneth Goldsberry, Editor Emeritus, Colorado Prospector, 4760 E. Idaho Place, Denver, CO 80222. (303) 756-4661.



Photo courtesy State Historical Society. Original in Meeker Museum.  
**A COLORADO FIRST LADY**  
 Rebecca Jane Hill came to Colorado as the bride of future Gov. Benjamin H. Eaton, homesteaded near Windsor, and became a much admired and gracious hostess as First Lady.

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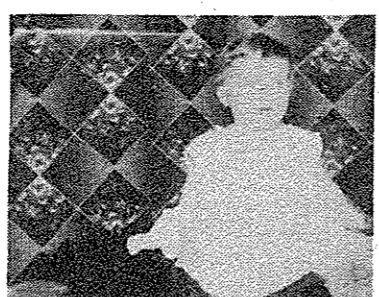
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# Sun Bonnet Lassies

**AS SWEET AS SHE SOUNDS**  
 Lovie Phillips, 92 last month and a sprightly resident of the State Veterans' Center, Homelake (Monte Vista), has pieced and appliqued quilts ranging from a 100-year-old cover which she restored with blueing and sunshine, and then finished for a friend; to a contemporary jeans quilt recently finished for a grandson; and a butterfly applique made for a granddaughter from the child's dresses. Lovie has a photo album, compiled by a niece, of many of her quilts. She sews on a small frame to better fit into her room at Homelake, where she also sews large size Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls. "As to best of my memory," she has written, "I have quilted about 25 quilts and pieced about 30 in the last 30 years." Quilting came to her "late" in life, after she and her late husband, Cecil, had raised their family in the San Luis Valley.

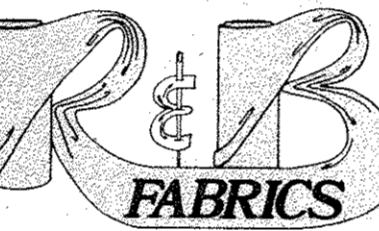


**FOR EUGENIA, IT ALL STARTED IN 1904**

At age nine months, Eugenia Mitchell posed for a portrait in her native Sao Paulo, Brazil, with a backdrop of a pieced quilt. Shown at right is the Golden Quilter, who at 79 is renowned for both her quilting and her quilt collection. She is a founder of the Rocky Mountain Quilt Collection to which she will contribute 100 of her collection when the fledgling museum has quarters. One of her most noted quilts, Mexican Jenny, supposedly sewn by a lady-of-the-night while serving time in the penitentiary for killing a lover, will be printed in the 1983 quilt engagement calendar.



**QUILTING 'WAY OUT EAST**  
 Burlington quilters who meet twice weekly in the United Methodist Church, continue the tradition of strong friendship, delicious food, recipe exchange and money-making for the church. They charge for each quilt finished to hire and each spring sew a quilt of their own for sale at the Mother-Daughter Banquet. First year, 1976, the ladies completed seven quilts and last year their number was up to 21. "One of our greatest challenges," remarked Louise Low, at right, "was fitting a round quilt into a square frame. We basted it to a bedsheet and got it done." Shown with her at left is Helen Ancell.



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THE COLORADO PROSPECTOR

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# COLORADO PROSPECTOR

Historical Highlights From Early Day Newspapers  
 Vol. 13, No. 6 Colorado Territory Price, Four Bits, 50¢

## Colorful Fabric Of The State Colorado's Quilts And Quilters Quilt A Comfort To Governor Eaton

Mar. 24, 1929 - Color, it is said, attracts color. So it was that the color of gold, gleaming alluringly from Colorado's hills, drew from Eastern civilization those colorful spirits who make up the ranks of the West's immortals - its Pioneers.

There was at least one exception - a man seemingly without a trace of flashy color in his whole character. He was Benjamin Harrison Eaton, who came from Ohio in search of gold and stayed to be the plodding father of irrigation, eventually one of the state's richest farmers and Colorado's governor.

There must have been a spot of flashy color in the man some place. All the others whom gold attracted here had it. They were adventurers, romanticists, Indian fighters, impetuous figures to whom the lure of gold was irresistible.

Eaton's biographers paint him as none of these. He was a school teacher, a deep thinker, and a hard worker. He joined an ox caravan coming to the West, apparently for the sole purpose of establishing a farm upon what was then considered a barren desert.

There was nothing in that idea to give evidence that Eaton was a

man of adventure. Perhaps it was the ancestry behind him that drove him across the frontier. His great-grandfather had come to America from England and settled on the frontier. His grandfather was an adventuring sea captain and his father settled in Ohio when that was the frontier of America.

But if Eaton lacked the brilliant color of character that others of the pioneers had, he was recompensed by richer, more enduring and more praiseworthy traits. He was a dreamer with the perseverance and ability to make his dreams come true.

**WAS LEFT A WIDOWER IN EARLY LIFE**  
 Eaton arrived in Colorado July 1, 1859. Already he had tasted of tragedy, altho he was then but 26. He had married Delilah Wolfe in Ohio three years before. She had died when still little more than a bride, leaving one son, Aaron.

After running an irrigation ditch from the Cache la Poudre River Eaton returned to Iowa to interest others in his dream. Apparently he only succeeded in gaining the confidence of one of his former scholars - Miss Rebecca I. Hill, who became his wife and returned with him to his Western homestead.

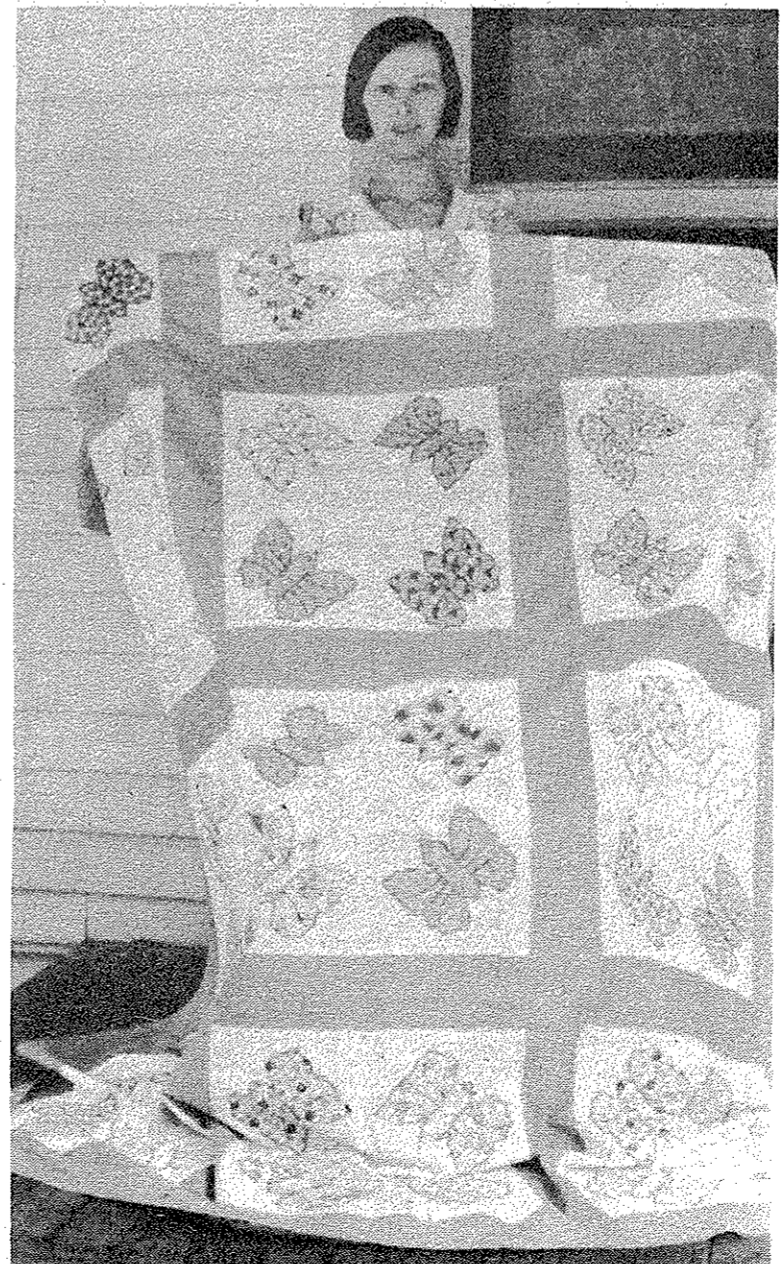


Photo courtesy Littleton Historical Museum.  
**PROUD AS A BUTTERFLY**  
 Mabel Miller, wife of Frank S. Miller, Littleton, proudly displays her applique and embroidered quilt. The photo, rare because so few women were pictured with their handiwork, was taken out-of-doors on a porch at the family home, circa 1928.

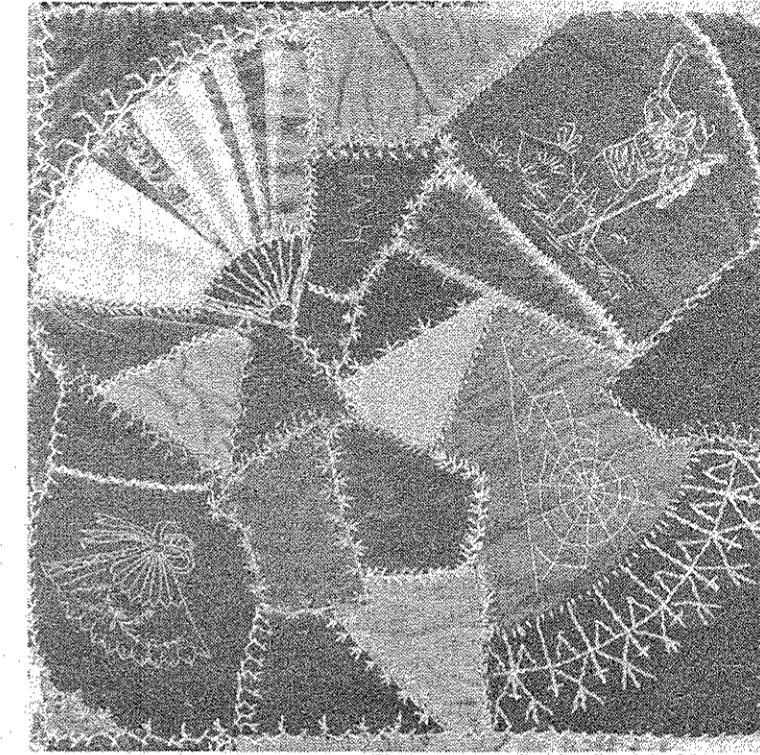


Photo courtesy Greeley Municipal Museum.  
**THE EATON QUILT: A COLORADO TREASURE**

Inscribed in gold point on the maroon velvet patch in the center of the quilt is the following: "Presented to Mrs. Eaton by the Ladies of the Boulevard Congregational Church Assisted by the Legislators of 1855." Governor and Mrs. Eaton at that time were living in Denver during his term as governor. The quilt is made of silk, satin and velvet and edged with gold and maroon silk cord and tassels. Boulevard Congregational Church eventually merged with Wheatridge Congregation Church and last month, May 1982, celebrated its centennial.

"Wasn't it heroic of him to hold still stands in Greeley... The Rocky Mountain News.  
**Pioneer Farm Wife**  
 Jan. 16, 1970 - Rebecca Jane Eaton...came to Colorado with her husband Benjamin H. Eaton, in 1868, settling on the Poudre River, near what is now Windsor. Mrs. Eaton used money from her small flock of chickens to buy sheeting for flour sacks which she sewed on a hand-operated sewing machine. These sacks were filled with flour milled from the first wheat crop raised on the Eaton farm and sold in Denver at \$10 per sack - Hazel E. Johnson, The Greeley Journal.

"She looked so sweet that after supper I thought I would go over and see her. I couldn't get the notion out of my head that that great rough man had stolen her - such a rose-and-cream complexion you never saw and such a mass of golden hair hanging in curls. She was very intelligent and pleasant, but, to my surprise, dead in love with that big burly man."  
 "She was a bride and this was her bridal trip. The man, too, proved to be real smart when you came to talk with him, and quite well educated. He had been a school teacher back in Iowa and she had been one of his scholars, but he had been out to the mountains last year and it was just inspiring to hear him talk about the country out there. I got to like him very much before we came away, he was a man of so much observation and so much in love with and so proud of his pretty wife."

"Their wagon, I found, had run over his foot and mashed his toes. He was traveling along barefoot because his boots hurt his feet, and she was sitting on the wagon which held their worldly possessions, when they had come to a steep pitch that ended in a real bad slough. He had chained the wheel and walked ahead, when suddenly the chain broke and the wagon rushed down on the cattle, and the cattle jumped forward like deer to get out of the way. If that man had not had wonderfully quick wits and possessed the strength of a giant, his young wife would certainly have been killed and buried beneath the wagon and all, in that slough, but quick as lightning he saw the danger, grabbed the wheel as the wagon whizzed past him and, bracing himself, held it and sid the wagon down to the slough."  
 "But the fellow had put his foot too far in and the wagon had run over his toes - slid right over them and mashed the foot badly. It was a mercy the ground was sandy."

## Social Salad

Jan. 19, 1893 - Long ago in our grandmothers' day the "quilting bee" was one of the notable events of the household; on those occasions the merry jest went round while busy fingers plied the needle, the whole ending with a good old fashioned "tea." Something of this nature took place on Friday afternoon last at the residence of ex-Governor Eaton, the same being given in honor of their guest Mrs. Edwin Nettleton of Denver. A beautiful cream colored comfort was "tied" with old gold, the participants being Mrs. D. Monahan, Mrs. Wm. Mayber, Mrs. O.P. Gale, Mrs. R.W. Guss, Mrs. E.L. Dunham, Mrs. A. Chapman, Mrs. A.H. Dunham, Mrs. A.C. Wilson, Mrs. C.L. Hanna, Mrs. Geo. Flisk.

From two until five o'clock the work went on, interspersed with lively conversation, when all repaired to a dainty spread consisting of the following:

Escalloped Oysters	MEENU	Tongue
Rolls	Saratoga Chips	Crackers
Celery	Cheese	Pickles
Coffee	Strawberries	Tea
Angel Food	Ice Cream	Fruit Cake
	Oranges	

The occasion was most enjoyable, old friendships being strengthened, new ones made and all more than pleased with their hostess and her delightful guest. - The Greeley Tribune.