

Saturday July 12, 1pm: SARAH STEVENS on "Preserving the Davis Signature Quilt"

Introductory Comments: **BETTY VERHOEVEN**

Bill and Donna Davis, descendants of old Gilboa Village residents George E. and Sarah Travell Davis, saved this century-old quilt and recently donated it to the Gilboa Museum and Nicholas J. Juried History Center. The quilt was apparently made as a fundraiser for the Methodist Episcopal Church and organized by its Epworth League of young adults in Gilboa Village. The quilt holds 273 signatures of Gilboa townspeople and nearby residents who made donations to pay for the Church's new acetylene lighting unit.

Each 'autograph' of a donor was red-stitch embroidered into 20 white cotton pie-sliced circle patterns. The quilt displays many characteristics of these signature fundraising quilts sewed between 1834 and 1920. They are valued historically for their wealth of community information.

With an introduction by acclaimed local quilter from East Jewett, Betty Verhoeven, come hear textile conservator Sarah Stevens describe the treatments she used to stabilize and conserve this amazing historic quilt which reveals a lot about the community of Gilboa townspeople in 1912.

The Quilt will be on display at the Museum as the featured part of a new exhibit:

IT TAKES A VILLAGE Signature Fund-raising Quilts

SARAH STEVENS: With over 20 years as a textile conservator and projects spanning the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, Sarah founded her own studio in Cohoes NY and aids institutions, private collectors, and owners of family heirlooms in the care and handling of their textiles. Those textiles range from blankets and quilts to flags, banners, tapestry carpets and embroidery lace.

BETTY VERHOEVEN: National and local award-winning quilter from Holland to the Catskills, Betty was inducted into the Quilters Hall of Fame in 1992. She was an early member of Patchworkers of East Jewett and later served as President of the Catskill Mountain Quilters for five years. A living legend in the Catskills vibrant quilt making community, Betty lives on the J J Farber farm in East Jewett with her husband Jack.

Program will be held at the Gilboa Museum and Nicholas J. Juried History Center,
122 Stryker Rd. Gilboa NY 12076 ; 607-588-6894

Programs at the Gilboa Museum & Nicholas J. Juried History Center are supported by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, Nicholas J. Juried Foundation, and the Town of Gilboa.