Dear Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery,

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Message from the Friends Board

Editors:

Lora Rocke & Betty Castan

JOIN THE FRIENDS

Your membership will allow you to participate in our "Members Only" events!!

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Telephone:
Email:

T E X T I L E S  S A L E
FUNDRAISER for the ROBERT HILLESTAD TEXTILES GALLERY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2012
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
1339 N 37th Street, Lincoln, NE 68503

Shop for fabric, yarn, notions, quilting and sewing patterns, home textiles, fashion books, and lots more! For general information or to donate textiles items call 402-466-0951

Best of the Katie Best Collection: An Exhibition of Historic Clothing from 1880-1940

Now through - September 7, 2012

On exhibit through September 7, 2012 are pieces from the collection of Katie Best, an established historic clothing collector from Omaha, Nebraska. The “Best of the Katie Best Collection” is used to illustrate the evolution of women’s roles. Graduate student Kristen Weber, in fulfillment of her master’s degree, has identified four groupings of women’s garments from the Katie Best collection within the Textiles, Merchandising, & Fashion Design’s Historic Costume Collection. These four groupings span the years 1880 through 1940 and illustrate the evolution of women’s domestic, workplace, community, and political roles. Twenty garments are on exhibit as well as reference and organizational materials Katie used to build her collection.

A reception opened the exhibition on May 5th where Dr. Barbara Trout presented “The Collector and Her Mission,” a slide presentation and commentary showing highlights of the Katie Best Collection. A public reception was held and the Historic Costume Collection was open to those attending the event.

SAVE-THE-DATE

The Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery are hosting a Fundraiser on Friday, October 19th from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm “Keepers - A Garment with a Story” at the home of Friend Lesley Myers, 2475 Lake St, Lincoln

While visiting with Lesley Myers, Board member Jack Saltzman learned that Lesley longed to have an event featuring outfits or articles of clothing that people always kept and treasured. Jack started planning this unique fundraiser for the Gallery, to be held at Lesley’s home, which will showcase “Keepers” and their stories. The evening will include heavy hors d’oeuvres created by Beacon Hills Catering, wine, models, and a live auction!

We are looking for fashionistas, both women and men, who will share their favorite garments from parties, graduations, anniversaries, proms, cheerleading, weddings, sports, service uniforms, maternity, christening gowns, Halloween costumes, etc., and the story behind it. Anything goes!

To share your “Keeper” or for more information, contact Jack Saltzman at (402) 475-0768 Don’t miss this fun event to support the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery!
It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to write to you for the first time as President of the Friends of the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery. I received my degree at UNL many years ago with an emphasis on Fashion Merchandising in the Textiles, Clothing & Design department. My career took me to NYC first as a corporate buyer for Younkers, then in sales and marketing for Liz Claiborne, Inc. It is great to be back in Lincoln to help stimulate interest in the Gallery by serving with Dr. Robert Hillestad on this dynamic Board.

For 15 years, the Friends has supported and promoted the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery here in Lincoln and throughout the state. The Friends’ achievements are made possible by our loyal supporters and for this we are truly grateful.

The Friends participated in the spring “Give to Lincoln Day” and were pleased to be in the top half of the 187 nonprofit organizations involved in this fundraising day, which entitled us to a portion of the challenge match fund. We appreciate the generosity of our long-time and new donors.

Betty uses her problem-solving skills on a daily basis in her job at UNL in the Educational Media unit located on the East Campus. She enjoys working with team members on various projects in use for teaching, research, and outreach.

Betty’s interest in textiles, experience with technology, and management skills makes her a good match for needs of the board. She will be serving on the Marketing committee.

Introducing Betty Castan

Betty Castan brings a background in textiles and technology to the Board. Born and raised on a farm near Falls City, Nebraska, she learned problem solving skills through garment construction and the need to use what was available on a limited budget. “I’m a visual person,” she said in a recent interview. “I like the process of combining the parts, figuring out how they fit together, and resolving problems when they arise.” Her garments were often juried into competitions at the state fair. Although no longer creating garments, she uses her 4 H background to create meaningful one-of-a-kind objects from heirloom textile fragments and decorative baskets made from pine needles.

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Our New Board Members

Introducing Jack Saltzman

When the Planning Committee for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta searched for distinguished persons to carry the legendary torch, young athletes, Jack Saltzman was chosen from over 5,000 state-wide nominations. He was selected on the basis of his outstanding record of volunteer service.

Jack's generosity started in childhood. When Jack was only 13, his mother died unexpectedly. His Aunt Mamie stepped in to provide encouragement and support. They became pals and took frequent day trips in search of distinctive household items. “She was the authentic Auntie Mame” he quipped in a recent interview.

After attending business school and the University of Nebraska, he worked various art and design jobs before settling into a retail buying position. While searching the wholesale market for gift items, he amassed his own collection of silver, china, crystal, artwork, vintage textiles, and furniture. “I couldn’t get enough of them” he said.

When others inquired about his treasures and urged him to talk about their provenance, he got the idea that his collection could be the basis for fundraising. So, he ventured into event planning long before there was a special name for that activity. Since establishing a family tradition for giving back, he has experienced. What started as his initial holiday party 25-years-ago evolved into a series of annual chocolate parties, each planned to benefit a specific charity. The Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery was his designated charity in 2008.

Jack is returning to the Friends Board after a hiatus. He is widely recognized as a leader in the community. In 2011 he received the Mayor’s Art Award. Recently he was designated Man of the Year by a local Sertoma Club and given the Golden Baton Award by the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra Guild. We are delighted he is back “on board.” Jack will serve on our Fundraising committee.

Introducing Susan Nichols

Susan Nichols comes to the Board with a wide range of managerial skills including: raising a family, demonstrating leadership in civic and social organizations, and mentoring persons with special needs. When she retired from UNL, her duties were that of an administrative assistant even though her title was “Office support.” Although she enjoys the final outcome of carrying out various tasks, the underlying process is the aspect that excites her the most. In a recent interview she said: “I love organizing things.” When asked to elaborate, she had this to say: “I like structure. When considering a task, I think about the set of ideas to which it relates. Sometimes those ideas are explained in a formal document such as a mission statement, set of bylaws, or guidelines. Other times they’re loosely defined and may only be the anticipated outcome of an activity, or communicated informally. Knowing about the ideas to which a task relates helps me to determine if it is suitable to my interests, skills and schedule. Although I like to be involved in new and challenging tasks, I prefer those which relate to experiences I’ve had before.”

Susan joined the board in January and has already made valuable contributions. Her skills are many and we look forward to her continued involvement in the ongoing tasks of the organization. Susan is the chair of our Reception committee.

Fun with the Friends

by Rich, fiber artist and master dye, instructs participants in techniques of dyeing using the indigo medium at a workshop in Lincoln on April 13, 2012. The Rheinfelden artists alternating represented four Midwestern states.

Ill Hofer manipulates plant materials with various textile technologies to create a wall piece during the Heart Basket workshop taught by fiber artist Jane Marie in Kearney on February 18, 2012.

April bus trip to Omaha to see 2 fashion exhibits at the Durham Museum and Egyptian treasures at the Joslyn Museum.