

quilting revived when the use of any material at hand was necessary. Blocks using tiny pieces of material included "Grandmother's Flower Garden," "Double Wedding Ring," "Dresden Plate," and others still popular today. Amish quilters used unusual combinations of the bright colors which they could not display in their clothing, and sometimes accented them with black quilting. In the '40's, '50's, and '60's there wasn't much time for quilting, but the advent of the Bicentennial in 1976 spurred a revival of traditional handwork, and quilts became an "art form", using a new medium - fabric. Newer quilt patterns included "Night Before Christmas" or "Wondrous Star," and Doris Krake designed a beautiful block, "Illinois," depicting features of our own state.

Appliqued quilts are those most often found as family heirlooms because they were considered "fancier" and kept for use by distinguished guests or given as special gifts, whereas the more common pieced quilts often were used until they wore out. Because quilts are no longer used chiefly for warmth as bedding, they often are found as wall hangings, or as pillow covers made from single blocks. Mrs. Krake demonstrated how to make and attach a casing to the back of a quilt so that it could be hung from a treated wooden rod, but not for longer than three months at a time, so as to avoid sagging. She also gave us many pointers on quilt care. Quilts should not be kept in cedar chests or be allowed to touch wood - if a rod is used for hanging it should be painted or treated so that bare wood does not touch the quilt. Plastic storage bags or boxes should not be used--they do not allow the quilt to breathe. Cardboard boxes and paper containers draw moisture and are not recommended. The ideal storage container is a fabric pillow case. If used as bed covers or as wall hangings, quilts should be protected from too much sunlight to avoid fading. Even quilts that may be laundered should not be washed more than once or twice a year. They can be aired outdoors in the shade (hung on two clothes lines) or vacuumed through nylon net with an upholstery attachment. A quilt with a wool batt should be sent to the dry cleaners. One with a polyester batt may be safely put in a washing machine set for "easy, cold wash". A quilt having a cotton batt can be soaked in a bath tub in mild soap suds, gently pushed up and down in the suds, then in several rinses of clear water, squeezed against the side of the tub, then dried on a sheet, on the grass in the shade, or hung across 3 parallel clothes lines and allowed to drip dry.

This written account of our meeting cannot do justice to the colorful display of the quilts and quilt blocks shown by Mrs. Krake, nor the exhibit of the many quilts which our members brought to show and to discuss. Following the meeting refreshments were served by Margot Kramer and Marianna Sausaman, from a table covered by a beautiful quilt made by Marianna.

The audio tape of this program will soon be available in the Sangamon Valley Collection at Lincoln Library.

### BOARD MEETING REPORT

The SCHS Officers and Board of Directors met at 4:30 P.M. at Lincoln Library on Jan. 24, with seventeen present. The meeting was opened by the president, Janel Lundgren, and the minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer's report were accepted as presented. Our balance in all accounts is \$21,198.23 as of January 24. The Annual Dinner Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 18, at the Island Bay Yacht Club, celebrating our 30th year. Details will be determined later and reported in the HISTORICO. The tour committee has planned a bus trip for May 4 (see details in

additional article on tours). Plans for a fall tour have not been made as yet, depending upon the availability of local buses. Only seven replies to the "Picnic Survey" have been received. There may not be a Pioneer Park picnic this year. The budget committee is still in the process of setting up a budget to determine long-term use of funds, taking into consideration our invested funds and our operating expenses. The possibility of publishing a new constitution and yearbook and of designing a new logo were discussed. The publications committee is considering the manuscript of Wayne Price's new book (as yet not completed) on Sangamon County barns. Approval was given for the purchase of a new tape recorder to be used for our meetings as the old one, purchased in 1975, has ceased to function. The board accepted with regret the resignation of Ed Pree as a Director due to illness. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 28, at 4:30 P.M. at Lincoln Library.

### AUDIO TAPES OF MEETINGS AVAILABLE

Since 1975, at the suggestion of Don Kramer (SCHS President 1974-75) we have taped the most of the meetings of our Society. These tapes are available for use on the tape player in the Sangamon Valley Collection at Lincoln Library. Librarian Karen Graff has compiled a list of the number, date, speaker and title of each tape. If you would like to hear some of our programs again, please drop into the Sangamon Valley Collection on the third floor of Lincoln Library and check the list. (Karen is a Life Member of our Society.)

### LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY ACTIVITIES

A number of activities have been planned in observance of the 182nd birthday of Abraham Lincoln. George Painter, Historian of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, has provided us with several news releases concerning the events to take place at the Lincoln Home Visitor Center at 426 S. Seventh Street. (George is a past president of our Society.) He also has provided us with copies of the first and second place winners in this year's Lincoln Essay competition for eighth graders. The first place essay is published in this issue and the second place paper will be in the March HISTORICO.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN: A BIOGRAPHY IN WORDS AND MUSIC, will be presented at the Visitor Center at 2:00 P.M. on both Sat., February 9 and Sunday, February 10, featuring a dramatization of an 1865 political rally honoring President Lincoln. The part of the President will be played by the nationally-known actor, Fritz Klein, with the role of the Illinois State Auditor of the 1850's and '60's, Jesse K. DuBois, played by Paul Presney, Jr., known in this area for his performances with the Springfield Muni Opera. Music of Lincoln's day will be presented by the Springfield Symphony Chorus, conducted by P. Timothy Koch and accompanied by Mrs. Margery Dodds.

(Immediately preceding this dramatization at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday, Feb. 10, awards will be presented for the Lincoln Essay competition. See article on Essay Competition in this issue.)

LINCOLN HERITAGE LECTURES. The public is cordially invited to enjoy the Lincoln Heritage Lectures, which are presented each year on Lincoln's Birthday. This year's event will begin at 9:30 A.M. on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1991, in the Lincoln Home Visitor Center. James Stevenson, a Springfield native who is now Assistant Professor of History at East Georgia College in Swainsboro, GA, will make the first presentation. In a lecture entitled