

News from Genoa Main Street



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Telling the Ruby McKim Story

Genoa Hosts Quilts, Fibers and Fun Jan. 25-29

Genoa's 4th annual Quilt & Fiber Arts Walk arrives just in time to ward off the late January chill. The expanded event will take place Wednesday, January 25 through Sunday, January 29. Genoa's quaint downtown will be filled quilts, weaving, basketry, rugs, collages and needlework of all sorts. Demonstrations, guest speakers, hands on projects, children's activities, special meals, contests and free gifts will make for an event that entertains experienced artisans and anyone looking for a fun day out.

Genoa's Quilt & Fiber Arts Walks is presented by Genoa Main Street, Inc. and is sponsored by Basketcases Unlimited, ServiceMaster of DeKalb County and Waste Management.

New this year are weekend and evening events for adults and children who cannot attend during the week. Among them is a presentation by quilting expert Janette Dwyer on Saturday, January 28 at 11:00 a.m. She will present "A Century of Quilts-The Ruby McKim Story."

CASCO Auditorium Hosts Presentation

McKim is the historic quilter behind many of the patterns that have become so familiar. She helped bring quilting to American women through her regular publication of patterns and instructions. Ms. Dwyer's popular presentation includes many examples of McKim's work.

The presentation will be held at CASCO auditorium at 312 Eureka Street opposite the new City Hall. Tickets are not required and a \$5 donation at the door is suggested. Parking is available on the east side of City Hall.

Fives Days of Fabrics, Fibers and Fun

Each day of the five-day event will have some of the same activities and as well as several unique things for visitors to see and do. Downtown's four block long display of quilts, needlework and fiber arts will be on view every day.

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A miniature quilt show will also be open daily. Each day visitors can bring their extra materials to swap with others. Certified quilt appraiser Sherry Branson will be available for appraisals and will also do a bed turning daily. Main Street volunteers have completed a fabulous quilt that will be on display with raffle tickets available for purchase. The winner will be drawn on the last day of the event.

Many of the artisans displaying their work also will demonstrate their techniques. Visitors can see spinning, basket making, embroidery, tatting, paper quilling, fabric and bead art, the use of natural dyes, long arm sewing, crocheting, knitting, paper piecing, lace making and more depending on the day. The demonstrations will be held throughout the day and in various locations. Schedules can be picked up at many locations on Main Street including the library and shops. It also posted at www.genoamainstreet.org.

Children's Programs Saturday, Sunday

Main Street volunteer Pat Barger began the children's program last year. She was overwhelmed with the response. "This year we have so much for the kids to do, they shouldn't have to wait to try a project" says Barger. "They will be able to make quilt blocks, learn to crochet, paint t-shirts, make tote bags, put e their photo on a t-shirt, make fabric beads and sew a dream pillow. There will be different activities on Saturday and Sunday so families can come both days. Most projects are free so families can to have a fun weekend without spending much if any money."

Reservations Recommended

The culminating activity of this year's event is the Needle Workers' Delight. Participants will have a warm winter meal and then sample up to 5 different quick projects. The activity is being organized by Carolyn McQuillan of Basketcases Unlimited in Clare, a sponsor of this year's event.

"We have held this type of activity elsewhere and it is great fun" says McQuillan. "There will be a perfect light meal for a cold day-choice of homemade soups and breads, a delicious dessert and hot coffee. Along with the meal, there will be different projects set out in stations. People can go from one to another, learn how to that project and complete it on the spot. The afternoon is a great bargain at \$15 for both the meal and projects if paid in advance. The price is just a little higher to pay at the door."

Reservations are strongly recommended for the Needle Workers Delight as seating and project supplies are limited. Walk-ins will be accepted only if space is available. Contact the Main Street office to make reservations. Reservations also can be made at the Swap table in the Genoa Public Library during the Quilt & Fiber Arts Walk.

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For more information on the Quilt & Fiber Arts Walk or to make reservations contact the Genoa Main Street, Inc. office at 815 784-6961, email genoamainstreet@atcyber.net, or go genoamainstreet.org.

Genoa Main Street, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving downtown Genoa.

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Janette Dwyer.jpg

Janette Dwyer owned and operated Quilt Quarters in Geneseo for nearly six years. For the past 16 years she has been giving programs on her large and ever growing quilt collection. She first became aware of Ruby McKim when she purchased a State Flower Quilt at an auction. McKim is widely recognized for her body of work, as well as for her book *One Hundred and One Patchwork Patterns* published in 1931.



Threading Needle.jpg

You don't need to be an expert sewer to have fun at Genoa's Quilt & Fiber Arts walk, January 25-29. Visitors can try their hand at quilting and other projects. Free instruction will be available. Children will have their own activities on Saturday and Sunday. Adults will have special projects to make at the Needle Workers Delight on Sunday. Go to genoamainstreet.org for more information.



Generations.jpg

Genoa's Quilt & Fiber Arts Walk connects generations. Grandparents, parents and children all enjoy the demonstrations and displays. Having grandma teach you to quilt over lunch is a highlight. The event will take place January 25-29. Go to genoamainstreet.org for more information.



Expanding Horizons.jpg.

Free demonstrations will occur several times daily during Genoa's Quilt & Fiber Arts Walk January 25-29. Visitors will see quilters, quillers, basket makers, spinners, fabric artists, dyers, embroiderers, knitters, tatting, lace making, crocheting and more. There will be opportunities for children and adults to try out many of the skills. Go to genoamainstreet.org for more information.

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