



N O T I O N S

I adore the many household textiles that have been passed down to me. They run the gamut from a glorious woven coverlet proudly displayed on a wall in the living room to an almost completely threadbare appliquéd and embroidered guest towel that I nevertheless continue to use. All the household textiles showcased in this issue are treasured, and many also are lovingly used. For this reason, we've included information on ways to care for vintage textiles that are still in use.

The Spring issue (on newsstands in mid-March) of *PieceWork's* sister magazine *Spin-Off* will feature a modern household textile: Pat Davis's "Mother Nature's Footstool." Davis washed and dyed, with natural dyes, the fleece from Columbia sheep, which she then handspun into a two-ply yarn; with this yarn, she needlepointed a footstool cover in a bargello pattern from *Bargello Magic* by Pauline Fischer and Anabel Lasker (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972). Do check out the footstool. Davis's clever combination of techniques makes the cover a great addition to the ranks of household textiles.

Because we receive far more books for review in *PieceWork* than we have space for, we have recently begun offering short reviews of some of those books on our website, www.pieceworkmagazine.com/go/books. As with almost everything else, this solution has pluses and minuses. On the plus side, we're pleased to be able to let you know about more books of interest and overjoyed at reducing the backlog of books in my office waiting to be reviewed; on the minus side is having to decide which reviews will appear where. Our intention is to update the list on the website monthly. A note taken from the current crop of website reviews: Linda Parry's *Textiles of the Arts and Crafts Movement*, originally published in 1988 and increasingly hard to find, has been reissued with new color plates (New York: Thames and Hudson, 2005). Our Historical Textiles Recommended Reading List appears on the same page on the website.

You've told us that you're very pleased with the January/February issue, particularly with our new in-depth looks at different techniques, such as Shay Pendray's "Couching Gold Threads" and Gretchen Allgeier's "Needle Lace." This issue features the Royal School of Needlework on stumpwork; Diane Horschak will focus on silk shading for the May/June issue.

Thanks to all who have taken the time to let us know your thoughts. Please keep your comments coming.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jane Lasker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.