



N O T I O N S

The *PieceWork* office is overflowing with containers full of textiles. Some objects, sent here for photography for the September/October issue, are awaiting the return of their owners from extended trips; others, such as the delightful, truly-makes-me-grin tree skirt made by author Betsy Barrett's grandmother (see the article on page 18), will appear in this issue; still others are here to be photographed for future issues. We have two tubs (one for clean and one for dirty) for the white gloves that we use to handle the textiles and a large box filled with background fabrics for the photo shoots. Large pieces of thick cardboard house the acid-free tissue that we use to wrap every textile that comes to the office for its return home, either buffered (for cotton and linen) or unbuffered (for all other fibers). The office also holds five bookcases overflowing with reference books and magazines; file cabinets and desks; and a closet bursting with more boxes and bins as well as an archive of past issues. Its 400 square feet (37 m²) can be quite the obstacle course, but every bit of the ever-changing content is necessary for our work.

We have a new project in the works (which, of course, is adding more containers to the mix)! It began on a Saturday in August with a lecture-demonstration at our local quilt shop, The Quilter's Garden, called "*PieceWork* Presents Home Care for Your Heirloom Textiles." Curator of collections at the Fort Collins (Colorado) Museum and frequent *PieceWork* contributor Linda Moore was the presenter, basing her program on her article of the same name in the January/February 2006 issue (the article is also available as a downloadable PDF file on our website, www.pieceworkmagazine.com). Moore demonstrated various methods of caring for textiles, including vacuuming through a screen, storage in museum boxes, and using acid-free paper for padding and protection. *PieceWork* staffers recorded the lecture and photographed the demonstrations. After developing a script and a PowerPoint or slide presentation, we'll use articles of clothing (which date from 1869 to 1937 and include drawers, shirtwaists, a petticoat, nightgown, bodice, and dresses) to illustrate padding with acid-free tissue paper, stabilizing by stitching crepeline or organza over worn areas, hanging on a muslin-covered padded hanger, and so forth. Together with the script and slides or CD-ROM, these examples will all go into a box along with samples of screening with the edges taped, an acid-free museum storage box, and extra acid-free tissue paper. Voila! a Lecture in a Box (actually, there will be three of them), which we'll offer to shops, guilds, and other organizations as an informative, complete, easy-to-use program. I'll update you on our progress in the next issue.

This issue closes out another year. I send each of you best wishes for a holiday season filled with joy.