

Ladies Missionary Society by Lois Strobe

When I graduated from college in the 70's, Ladies Missionary Society was a busy and vital part of our missionary support. Over the years they had a role in many projects like rolling bandages for the Seymours and the Thomases in Africa, collecting needed supplies and serving. At one time we maintained a clothing closet for missionaries as well as food pantry and household items for those on furlough. I joined as a new bride and brought my little ones to "help" as they came along. It was a wonderful way to fulfill the Biblical command for older to teach younger women as we learned new skills and swapped recipes at our luncheons.

Some of the older ones were gifted quilters, so we produced many handmade quilts, missionaries, for brides (I still cherish ours!), and emergency situations like a fire in the community. We learned to make blocks for the crazy quilts, how to do the feather stitching as well as tying them off and binding the finished product. Some of the oldest ladies not strong enough to attend the meetings created a lot of the blocks at home for their contribution. The last one given was to Chris and Holly Klimuszka in 1987. The first bride with the dubious distinction of *not* getting a wedding quilt was Christine Curran in 1989.

We learned so much from the older generations like Janet Yates, Grandma Andreasen and Gertrude Strobe. Although we disbanded, we have many happy memories of once monthly girl times as we visited and helped as we could the missionaries our church supported. Tootie Harper, Nancy Wolfe and Allie Strobe were pillars of the group I remember who taught us young ladies many valuable lessons and we had such fun serving the Lord together!



Glenda Bridges, Lois Strobe, Marie Andreasen, Nancy Crane, Nancy Wolfe