Yesterday’s Legacy: Cover Up Quilt ~ Founders’ Day Tribute

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What exactly is a quilt? A quilt is a bed coverlet of two layers of cloth filled with wool, cotton, or down and held in place by stitched designs. Traditional quilts remind us of the past, keep us warm today, and are preserved for the future.

On May 11, 1929, twelve women founders, inspired to improve services and welfare of teachers, planned an innovative, original quilt design using the seven purposes: Fellowship, Service, Professionalism, Legislation, Scholarship, Personal Growth and Information, intertwined to provide strength, warmth, and comfort.

With red and gold material, scissors, pins, needles, and thread, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton, Miss Mamie Sue Bastian, Miss Ruby Cole, Miss Mabel Grizzard, Dr. Anna Hiss, Miss Ray King, Miss Sue King, Dr. Helen L. Koch, Mrs. Ruby Terrell Lomax, Dr. Cora M. Martin, Mrs. Lalla M. Odom, and Miss Lela Lee Williams set up their quilting frame and began to stitch. Pieces of the purposes sewn together formed our International Society today.

Regionals provided the ruler that takes the guesswork out of the marking. States contributed the fabric pieces used in the stitched design. Areas maintained the direction of the chapters, moving left, right, up, down, until the sash held together and supported the design. Chapters are the batting, the layer in between, which provides support and warmth. Individual members contributed the backing through enthusiasm, hard work, and commitment.

(If possible, show examples of the items mentioned above as they were being read about)

Embroidered stitching must be straight, even, and tight. A thimble protected each finger. Policies, Goals, Society Business, Program of Work, and Educational Services, provide the embellishments the twelve founders created and preserved.

Last, the DKG song is the binding, rolled, and stitched, creating a quilt useable at each chapter meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Chapter name) original quilt design was chosen on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (date of chartering) by Chapter Founders (name the charter members).

Some pieces of the quilt are no longer with us, but their contribution to the chapter remained preserved. The Cover Up Quilt continues to remind us of the past, provide warmth today, and tradition tomorrow. We honor our International and chapter legacy today with a gift. (Something associated with quilting or sewing. Perhaps a thimble or pin cushion could be given).

(Props; if you choose to highlight: tape measures, thimbles, ruler, red fabric, sash, batting, gold fabric backing.)