

NEVER FORGOTTEN FAIR MEMORIES

Each Washington County Fair yielded tremendous memories. For the volunteers, those memories were all about individuals sharing their talents and their stories.

DUANE ROBINSON ---spent his pastime creating pottery and displaying his artistic talents in vivid hues and ornate creations. Year after year Duane's pottery collected crowds of spectators and people's choice ribbons. His pottery was chosen to represent Washington County at the Utah State Fair. The highest honor a county fair can bestow. Duane's work represented us well.

BERNIE HARRIS--- was a salesman by trade. He spent his evenings in motel rooms alone snacking on any foods available. His weight became a serious medical problem. Doctors gave him an ultimatum, lose 100 pounds or become an invalid! He challenged himself to learn needlepoint and cross stitch. He created his own needlepoint designs. Each year, Bernie entered his handwork in the fair. Each year they received winning, honors. Bernie also won. He lost his 100 pounds and more. He always gave credit to the Washington County Fair that instilled in him a desire, that surpassed food, to create finer and more professional works.

DOCTOR WALTER SNOW---was a St. George dentist. He experimented using his dental drills and his soft, professional, touch to create beautiful, artistic, designs on hollowed chicken eggs. This unique talent was highlighted at the County Fair and given nationwide recognition at the Utah State Fair.

THE WOODBURYS OF BLOOMINGTON---Florence and her husband moved to St. George from California where they had spent years pursuing their hobbies of quilting, china painting, and creating such items a violin, tables, chairs, jewelry boxes from fine woods. They attended the fair daily and Mr. Woodbury entertained fair workers by playing the violin he had so lovingly made.

THE BLUE AFAGAN---was a county fair enter that displayed a distinct work of art while possessing a unique pattern. The blue afagan had been judged and received a second place. The Fair director, Cleo Atkin, and the Home Arts Chairpersons, Elna Rae Page and LaRee Jones, were disappointed. Judges are human and perhaps this was an over-site on the part of a tired judge. The blue afghan found its way to the Utah State Fair where it was awarded the highest rating, an overall sweepstakes ribbon.

THE CAREGIVERS CONTRIBUTION---A patch-work quilt entered by a male senior citizen was part of the quilt section at the Washington County Fair. The maker of this quilt was the sole caregiver of his ill, home-bound, wife. "It is the first time I have ever done anything like this before," he said, "But the cloth was there and I needed something to do." He came daily to the fair and showed any male that would listen. "Quilting is not for women only." He would say.

MEMORIES ARE MEMORIALS ^{to} OF THE PAST.