

Marie D. Webster

There are 52 Inductees (one is a married couple) and one Heritage Honoree in The Quilters Hall of Fame. I'm not going to take them in order, but I will start at the beginning. Not the first Inductee, but the first in the house; that's Marie Daugherty Webster. So many of you already are familiar with Marie Webster and why she deserves to be an inductee, and I won't give you her full story, but if you haven't met her, let me introduce you:



Marie Daugherty Webster

If you want to get to know Marie better, you can read a charming biography co-written by one of her grand-daughters at <https://quiltershalloffame.net/marie-webster/>

But for today, let's focus on the business part of Webster's life. She made her home, and operated her business in the building that houses the Hall of Fame Museum. If you travel to Marion, IN, you can see the gracious entry opening to what was the front parlor, and take the stately staircase up to the room she used as her office. Imagine raising a family there, maintaining a position as one of the local social elite, and hopping on

the train for a
business trip to Chicago.

Maybe in some later week I can write about the designer aspect of Webster's career, but in the meantime, let's take a look at some of the records of her business ephemera. The Museum usually has a rotating display of some of Marie's own quilts, her clothing and personal items, but you probably didn't know that there are many business artifacts in the collection too. Here's an example of how her patterns were marketed.



Trade Mark

Quilts and Spreads

Original Designs By

MARIE D. WEBSTER

Author of "Quilts and Their Story"

PRACTICAL PATCHWORK CO.

211 West Seventh Street

MARION, INDIANA

• QUILTS AND SPREADS

PATCHWORK—one of the oldest forms of decoration—combines charm, beauty and utility in the Quilts and Spreads which we offer to those interested in fine needle-work. Aside from the sentiment attached to heirlooms which makes all Quilts desirable, there must be real value, which in a Quilt is achieved by workmanship, quality of material and harmonious color.

When you have made a Quilt or Spread designed by Marie D. Webster, who is recognized throughout the entire country as a Quilt authority, you will have something to cherish always.

Attractively boxed, these Quilts and Spreads are furnished ready to make, containing all materials accurately stamped on a foundation of best quality white cambric and the Spreads on a heavy foundation of either white or unbleached material.

Peter Pan cloth, guaranteed fast color by the manufacturer, in attractive and harmonious colors is used for the flowers, leaves and other decorations. Any of these designs may be furnished for either single or double beds.

Prices will be furnished upon request for the Quilts and Spreads basted or finished.

Quilts	\$10.00
Baby Quilt	\$ 5.00
Spreads	\$ 8.50

May Tulips Quilt



This Quilt comes in combination of pink and lavender, also yellow and lavender, or two shades of either pink, yellow or lavender.

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Cluster of Roses Quilt



Can be furnished in two shades of pink or yellow.

French Basket Quilt



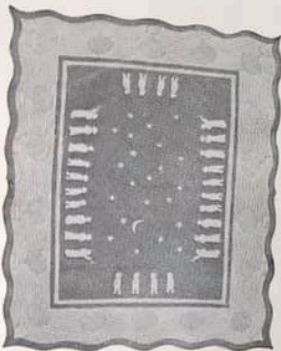
This popular Quilt has white baskets of pink roses on a blue ground, and blue scroll on white ground.

Cluster of Roses Bed Spread



This spread can be furnished in either pink or yellow, on a white or unbleached foundation.

Bed Time Baby Quilt



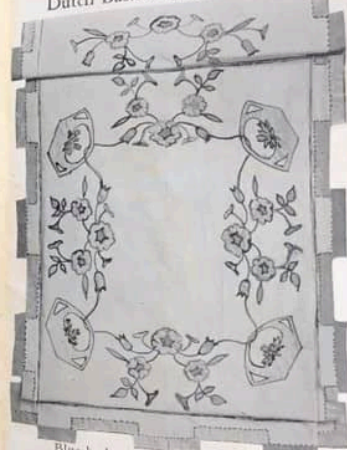
The center of this Baby Quilt is either blue, yellow or pink, with figures and border in white. Size 54-in. by 43-in.

Morning Glory Quilt



The Morning Glory design comes in two shades of blue or pink and in combination of colors.

Dutch Basket Quilt or Spread



Blue baskets of pink and yellow tulips connected with garlands of roses and morning glories in lavender and pink. Quilt comes with floral border.

This is a 1930's original multi-fold trade catalog labelled "Quilts and Spreads". It shows nine Marie Webster patterns in black and white with pricing and colors available. The blurb explains how the kits were shipped, " Attractively boxed, these Quilts and Spreads are furnished ready to make, including all materials accurately stamped on a foundation of best quality white cambric, and the Spreads on a heavy foundation of either white or unbleached material."

You can find other trade items in the Museum's collection at <https://quiltershalloffame.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/1462A6EC-FD09-445C-AFB4-833843745621>

<https://quiltershalloffame.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/E188A91F-06AC-4004-B423-719130381878>

<https://quiltershalloffame.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/8F88F984-7F3C-4D5F-A3E8-282682226921>

I'm wondering who in today's quilt world would compare with Marie Webster? Fons and Porter immediately come to mind as women who built a sideline into a serious business which is still going strong today. They are also Hall of Fame inductees, and I'll write about them another week. But surely there are some more recent entrepreneurs who would be comparable. I sometimes wonder whether the internet has changed the way we do business to the extent that, either there is no longer a place for a Webster-style business, or we have so many small businesses that no one stands out. What do you think? I would love to hear who you think could be a current parallel to Marie Webster as a quilt designer and entrepreneur.

Your Quilting Friend, Anna