



*"I'm the sixth generation to take over the operation."*  
- Ted Huber

*"Putting a quilt together is an art — putting the colors and designs together and being able to see it in your mind before it actually happens."*  
- Jane Eberhart



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### *Indiana State Fair Masters*

Over the years, Indiana State Fair masters have fine-tuned skills learned from family, from friends, from the many who have gone before. Although they may not call themselves artists, they have gained reputations within their communities as some of Indiana's best talents. This year we honor a family of winemakers and a group of quilters for their deep knowledge and commitment to sharing with their communities through participation at the Indiana State Fair.

#### *This year we honor*



#### *The Huber Family*

Master Winemakers • Clark County



#### *The Piecemakers*

Master Quilters • Vanderburgh County

#### *Traditional Arts Indiana*

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*A statewide partnership of the Indiana Arts Commission and Indiana University dedicated to broadening the appreciation and understanding of traditional Arts.*

# *Indiana State Fair Masters 2005*





## *The Huber Family*

**Master Winemakers  
Clark County, Indiana**

Since 1843, the Huber family has worked a small homestead located in the Knobs of Clark County, Indiana. Originally from Baden Baden, Germany, the family brought a fruit-growing and winemaking tradition with them to Southeastern Indiana. Like many of their neighbors, generations of Hubers have made a couple of barrels of wine each year for their own table. Winemaking was not a commercial venture until 1972, when Indiana passed the Small Farm Winery Act. Since the Huber family operated a fruit-based farm and had made wine as far back as they could trace their history, they decided to transform their retail fruit farm into the *Huber Orchard and Winery*.

Knowing that amateur winemaking was different from running a commercial winemaking operation, brothers Carl and Gerald Huber researched the business and trained themselves for their new agricultural venture. In 1979, they produced their first wine for sale. Gerald began competing and winning the Governor's Cup at the Indiana State Fair's International Wine Competition, which is the third largest competition of its kind in the United States. The competition helped the Hubers improve and develop their winemaking tradition and secure their reputation as a premier Indiana winery.

Gerald's son, Ted began working in the vineyard as a young boy and in the winery as a teenager. At 21, he became the Huber Winery's head winemaker, after his father and uncle transferred the family business to Ted and his cousin Greg. Today, Ted oversees the winery and vineyard on the six-generation farm, while Greg manages the orchard and retail operations, which attract 550,000 visitors each year.



*"I learned the winemaking and vineyard operation from my father"*

- Ted Huber



## *The Piecemakers*

**Master Quilters  
Vanderburgh County**

No image speaks more vividly of Indiana's pioneer women than a Hoosier quilting bee. Today groups throughout Indiana continue this tradition by gathering to quilt and visit.

In 1982, Minnie Marchant visited the Indiana State Fair's Pioneer Village and saw that no one was demonstrating quilting. She quickly volunteered her home quilt group to fill this void. Ever since, the Piecemakers, a group that quilts at the Salem United Methodist Church in Evansville, has been a staple at the Pioneer Village. In addition to demonstrating, the group donates a one-of-a-kind quilt to be auctioned at the Fair.

Like clockwork, each Wednesday throughout the year, the Piecemakers gather at the church to quilt. Some of the members also assemble on Mondays to make a quilt for the State Fair, a project that requires more than 200 hours of shared labor and talent. "Putting a quilt together is an art — putting the colors and designs together and being able to see it in your mind before it actually happens," explains Jane Eberhart. All of the members came to quilting in different ways. Some learned to quilt at their mother's knee while others taught themselves. The making of each quilt teaches the group more about the art and draws the circle of friends closer.

This group's commitment to the State Fair is expressed in their year round contribution of time and talent as quilters and demonstrators. As Roberta Smith declares, "Going to the State Fair is about as addictive as quilting."



*"Quilting is a sharing" - Emmy Schmidt*

## *Traditional Arts Indiana Partnerships*

"From elephant ears on the Midway to gleaming draft horses to the perfect piece of pie, the State Fair has shared Indiana's many occupations, skills, foods, arts, and celebrations with people from around the state and across the country. Through Traditional Arts Indiana, the Indiana Arts Commission is pleased to honor the 2005 Indiana State Fair Masters. These individuals have shared their gifts with Hoosiers for many, many years, so it is fitting that the State of Indiana recognizes their long association with the State Fair and the excellence that they individually and collectively represent for our state."

*Dorothy L. Ilgen*

*Executive Director • Indiana Arts Commission*

"A state university, like the State Fair, displays what is best about Indiana, and we are proud to play a role in both institutions. As folklorists and ethnomusicologists, we value especially the beauty and vigor of Indiana's traditional arts. Sponsorship of the Traditional Arts Indiana State Fair Masters and the State Fair Fiddle Contest provides a welcome opportunity for us to highlight the public mission of our department and IU, in partnership with the Indiana State Fair Commission and the Indiana Arts Commission."

*Richard Bauman*

*Chair • Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology • Indiana University*

"The Indiana State Fair is delighted to partner with Traditional Arts Indiana and the Indiana Arts Commission to show our appreciation to those individuals who have contributed to the Fair many years over. Through their exhibits, talents, volunteerism, and care of our great event, they truly deserve the title "Indiana State Fair Master." We are also pleased to bring the talents of Indiana's traditional musicians to the Main Street Stage on Traditional Arts Indiana Day for the seventh year in a row. Enjoy the music!"

*Cynthia C. Hoye*

*Executive Director • Indiana State Fair Commission*