

## VIDEO SYNOPSIS: **Caroline Trumpold**

### Introduction by Riki Saltzman

- :20 Riki Saltzman introduces herself as Folk Life Coordinator for the Iowa Arts Council Department of Cultural Affairs, part of state government. Ms. Saltzman and her staff work with individuals and communities to document, preserve, and present their traditions.
- :45 She describes presenting crafts, music, and dance as some of the traditions, at folk life festivals, on radio shows, and on two on-line folk life curricula.
- 1:04 Each of the five folk artists is briefly shown as Ms. Saltzman describes their craft or art.

### Caroline Trumpold

- 1:42 A sign shows the Village of Amana, a National Historic Landmark. A sign on the Middle Amana Church is shown, indicating that separate church services are held in German and in English. Ms. Saltzman introduces Caroline Trumpold, whose ancestors came to Iowa in the mid-1840's.
- 2:00 A group of women are shown creating a quilt. It's a large quilt, and each is working on an edge of it. Ms. Trumpold is a traditional quilter.
- 2:09 Ms. Trumpold points out that these are old patterns inherited from mothers and grandmothers. There are very few modern patterns available. Close-ups of flower patterns are shown.
- 2:40 A pattern chalked onto the green underside of a quilt is shown. Ms. Trumpold states that the inspiration for patterns came from anywhere—flowered tablecloths, an image in a catalog, or a design on a handkerchief were possibilities for ideas.
- 3:00 The detailed technique of stitching on a quilt is shown. Ms. Trumpold shows how she follows the chalk line and how many stitches she tries to get onto a needle before she pulls the needle through the fabric. She discusses the size of the stitches, and the underside of the framed quilt is shown. She uses one finger to catch the needle and push it back up to the surface she works on.
- 4:08 Ms. Trumpold recounts a joke among the ladies, "Someone asked, when are you going to do the other side?" The women get a laugh out of this, because both sides are completed at the same time. Ms. Trumpold states that in Germany, they did not make comforters like this in the 1840's. They had featherbeds. She says, "My personal theory is that when our people came from Germany, they needed bed covers—fast!" They couldn't bring all the things they needed when they immigrated to America.
- 4:38 Ms. Trumpold is shown using a long piece of wood and chalk as she marks the quilt. The wooden quilt frame is visible at the side. She states that the comforters were made to fill a need.
- 4:55 Ms. Trumpold leans across the edges to chalk in a pattern that she holds in the middle of the quilt. "My mother always called the center a mirror," she says.  
  
She is shown removing patterns from a bag. One is known as "monkeys' tails." She points out that she has a straight line marking the center and the middle of the quilt's sides. So she lays the pattern on there, and you can see the chalk marks through it. She can finish a quilt in thirty-five hours. "This is called the speedy pattern," she says. It has a daisy pattern.
- 5:52 A clamp is put in place to hold the quilting frame. Once again the women are shown quilting and talking.
- 6:10 End of Caroline Trumpold section