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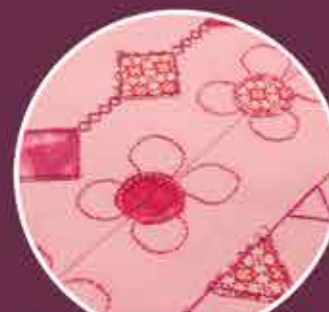
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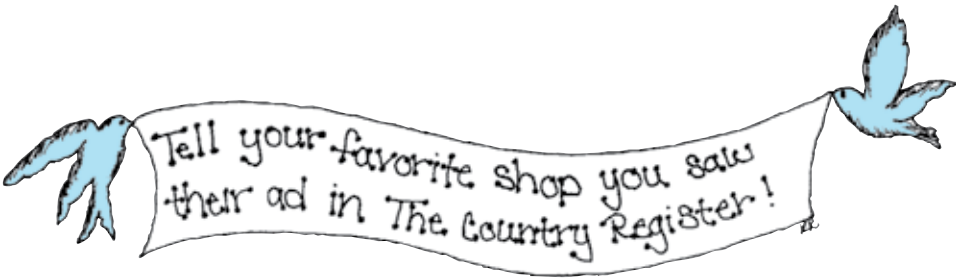
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The Country Register of Ontario
June/July 2021 Issue

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Deb Dunn



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To view/ buy her paintings, please visit: vintagesparrowstudio.etsy.com

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Crafting Is Art, Creation and Connection

by Barbara Kalkis

My friend, Dianne, has a zeal for quilting. Oh, it's not the intensity of saints on a mission of salvation but a focused mind-set that lets her see a place for every scrap in her fabric stash. Her ability to think of quilt patterns at random moments doesn't disturb me. I have the same mental alertness at hearing a perfect word for a poem or image for a greeting card. Crafters understand someone's enthusiasm for an art because we possess the exact same fervor.

Think about it. Some people stand before a sumptuous dinner buffet and ask, "Should I choose the scalloped potatoes or creamed corn ... or both?" Not crafters. Platters of food become color palettes, textures, shapes, patterns of negative space or design. Any aspect can jolt our imaginations about how something might look in fabric or wood, on canvas or paper. Homegrown chefs sample exotic dishes, then chew slowly, detecting and deducing ingredients to flavor their next kitchen creation.

Crafters Are Artists.

Eloquent speakers call crafts an 'avocation' ... a four-syllable word for 'hobby'. Both terms connote an interest in a skill or subject outside of one's profession or training. But those terms lack emotion. Crafters are artists. We don't just have a hobby. We have dedication to an art. Our daytime jobs can be housewife, plumber, doctor or physicist. We work and do our best, but in our brains there are special cells on alert. It's like we are birds scratching the ground for bugs while constantly on watch for the neighborhood cat—but a lot more fun! Crafters may be completely relaxed but our brain's creativity bell is always "on".

Thus, when Dianne and I were in Italy touring ancient churches filled with paintings, statues and mosaics by ancient masters, our creative bells

chimed. While other tourists clicked photos of heavenly glories, Dianne and I busily snapped photos of worn floors and walls to capture tile patterns. She was thinking of quilts. I was thinking of cards.

When I read Marlene Oddie's article, "Inspirational Tile," in the March-April edition of *The Country Register* of North & South Carolina, I knew she was a kindred spirit. Her quilt design was inspired by a tile pattern she saw in the Sintra National Palace in Portugal!

The Craft Connection.

My niece's craft is growing organic herbs and vegetables. She discovered a novel trellis design for growing tomatoes from a man in Australia. My friend attends online card making classes with enthusiasts from other countries. Magazines and computers let us reach around the world to find kindred spirits. Invisible threads of creativity bind us.

Susan McKay, featured artist in the March/April 2021 *Alberta Country Register*, discovered painting first, then found her calling to glass mosaic during a trip to Arizona. She explained her creative journey, saying, "Growth as an artist should never end."

Her words 'chimed' for me. Don't we all feel that way? No matter where we live, our craft calls us to create.

Barbara Kalkis is a marketing consultant and teacher. Her poems can be found in The Country Register newspapers and in her book, Little Ditties for Every Day...A Collection of Thoughts in Rhyme and Rhythm. Writing is her craft. You can contact her at BarbaraKalkis01@gmail.com.

A Memory Bear

by Barbara Polston

When the shabby chic look became popular in home decorating, I saw and fell in love with a particular fabric line. In soft shades of aqua, pink, yellow and white, it featured rose florals and seashells. At the time, my bedroom was yellow. I had painted the ceiling blue with sponged cloud patterns.

I was so enamored with the fabric, called Seaside Rose, I decided it was time for a décor change! I bought the fat quarter bundle, a quilting term that means an 18" x 22" piece of every fabric in the line. I made a fairly simple quilt for my bed, using every piece of the fabric. It had borders in a soft pink and white stripe. I repainted—white ceiling and pale aqua walls. Not just any aqua, but aqua that was color-matched to the fabric.

With my new look, I began enjoying my quilt. When I moved out of the master bedroom into a secondary bedroom to increase my studio space, I repainted that room to complement my quilt. When we moved out of that house, my new bedroom was painted the very same aqua and my quilt continued to serve me well.

We have quite a few pets and they are allowed on the bed. My poor quilt was thrown up on, repeatedly, by the cats. The dogs slept with me, scratching the quilt to arrange it to their liking. They tracked it with dirty paws. I tried to not only use it but care for it as best I could. It was washed at least every two weeks—sometimes more if "accidents" demanded.

I began to notice places where the fabric was worn through and the batting visible. Upon close examination, these places were many. It was time for a new bed quilt. But, what to do with my well-loved quilt, now falling into tatters? Surrendering it to the dumpster didn't feel right.

I asked quilting friends and received several good ideas. One suggested cutting a decent section out and framing it. Another suggested using serviceable bits to make toss pillows. Suddenly, it came to me! A memory bear! I would use my quilt to make a stuffed bear. I could honor my quilt and keep a bit of it with me.

Once I decided, I washed the quilt one last time, laid out the pattern on the better bits and cut. I didn't hesitate for fear I would change my mind. Working with the pre-quilted fabric was a bit challenging and several technical issues had to be resolved. Ultimately, I'm thrilled with the results! I've named my bear Rose and look forward to her company for many years.

©Barbara Polston, Phoenix, AZ, May 2021.



Looking for Plan B

by Deb Heatherly

The year 2020 taught us many things. One is to always have a back-up plan for when things do not go as we think they should. This past year, Plan B included working from home, remote learning for students, learning how to buy and have groceries delivered and even how to visit a doctor—all from the safety of our homes. Many people learned skills on their home computers that were previously foreign to them as well as a new meaning for the word "zoom." Still others, finding restaurants closed, learned that cooking at home could actually be fun!

As quilters, I think that we are intrinsically prepared for using Plan B when needed. We've all had to solve problems when making our creations. Sometimes these quilting dilemmas are due to improper preparation and other times come from circumstances totally beyond our control. Here are two examples.

Several years ago, I made a beautiful, scrappy homespun quilt. In the back of my mind I knew that a scrappy binding would be just the thing to set this quilt off, but in a hurry to finish, I cut and pressed binding from a single fabric. I should have measured but instead I forged ahead and started machine stitching the binding to the quilt. I knew I was taking a chance but it looked like enough. As I rounded the final corner, I started seeing a problem. You guessed it. I was 5" short. Frantically I searched for more of that same fabric but to no avail. Adding a different fabric for 5" just would not do. With no other solution, I removed the binding and made the scrappy binding that I should have made in the first place. What turned out to be Plan B was actually the best visual finish for this quilt.

During another quilting adventure, I started with an excess of all fabric needed. I cut and stitched and began to construct my blocks when I noticed several flaws in the background fabric. They were subtle and had not stood out when I started the project. Once sorted and removed, I was left with a shortage of the background. Being an older print there was no more of this fabric to be found. This project could have stopped and been set aside but instead I chose a detour. A similar background fabric was introduced and used where it was needed. The result? Once again Plan B proved to be so visually pleasing that I was happy that there had been flaws that pushed me to change my plans. These little inconveniences have taught me that Plan B can be a very good thing.



And so it is with life in 2021. We've been living Plan B for over a year and we're not quite finished. But being socially distant does not mean there has to be a lack of fun. Joy can be found in the simplest of things if we only choose to find it. For that trip that was planned and now canceled, find a Plan B. Perhaps a picnic and a day at the lake fishing would be a wonderful change. Pull out those lawn games long forgotten and gather with friends or family to play croquet or corn hole. Go for a walk or a long drive to visit places unknown. By thinking outside the box, the summer of 2021 can be amazing. All we need to do is think positive and make it so! I think we will all find that a little detour from the norm can turn into the best summer ever.

Deb Heatherly is a designer for Creative Grids® rulers. When not in her studio, Deb is normally on the road doing Creative Grids® lectures and workshops for guilds and shops across the country. She is the designer of the Creative Grids Cat's Cradle tool, Strippy Stars Tool, Turbo 4 Patch, Ultimate Flying Geese Tool, Cat's Cradle XL, and the new Kitty Cornered Tool. She is also the author of the books 'Cat'itude, Strippy Stars, 4-Patch Panache, The Ultimate flying Geese Book, Catitude XL, and Creatively Yours. Watch for her new book The Build A Quilt Workbook due out in late May. Visit her website at www.Debcatsnquilts.com. Creative Grids® fans are invited to join her Facebook group, Grids Girls, for tips and inspiration. Grids Girls members have the opportunity to participate in exclusive Grids Girls mystery quilts two times each year. The next mystery will begin in mid-June. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/770429649800457/>.

Quilt Shop Owners, you are invited to join the group above and Deb has an additional Facebook group just for you—Grids Girls for Quilt Shop Owners Only. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/273593657256524/>


You can contact her at Debscatsnquilts@aol.com or call Deb's Cats n Quilts Designs, 828-524-9578.

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DREAM of a time when our country is thriving with prosperity and appreciation.



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BELIEVE in true happiness and success for yourself, all our neighbors, friends and family.
BELIEVE in a time when our country is strong and thriving in every community.

REJOICE whole-heartedly for all the blessings that have come your way. Remember that goodness prevails in its own time through every challenge. REJOICE in all the beauty around you. The trees, sunrises and sunsets, the stars in a crystal clear night sky. REJOICE in the wonder of babies and small children, their innocence and sweetness. REJOICE in laughter as often as you can because it tickles every cell in your body for healing and perfect health.
REJOICE in life and extend love and light to yourself, your family, friends, and worldwide neighbors.

GIRLFRIEND WISDOM: My gift to you is the above magnet design as a reminder to DREAM, BELIEVE and REJOICE!

Joy & Blessings, Jody

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Tea for Antiques Like Me!

I love tea parties with a unique flavor. So it's not surprising that my daughter's childhood Little House on the Prairie lunchbox inspired an antique theme. Ideas for an antiqui-TEA began brewing right away. Whom could I invite? How would I decorate? What should I serve?

Invite Guests

Last year, when Covid-19 limited social gatherings, I invited four ladies from our church who were eager to connect. I asked them to each bring a small antique to share. Since we were all grandmothers, perhaps we were antiques ourselves—antique little girls.

Prepare a Unique Setting

With sunny weather, I served my antiqui-TEA outdoors on our second-floor deck. "I feel like I'm in a treehouse," my friend Joy said. With a canopy above the table and tree branches hanging over the deck adding shade and privacy, I thought it did feel like we were tucked away in a tree. But the table linens, pretty floral china, and fresh flowers in a teapot were fancier than you'd expect in a childhood treehouse.

Plan a Unique Menu

Serving tea at ten a.m. meant it didn't need to be a full three-course luncheon tea with dainty sandwiches. Nonetheless, I decided to fuss a bit and serve a light tea in three courses.

The first course included teacups filled with chilled strawberry soup and miniature teacups with a taste of homemade vanilla ice cream. I also served each person three raspberries to represent that God loves us, our families love us, and we love each other. This made a refreshing start to tantalize our taste buds.

For the second course, homemade scones with lemon curd and whipped cream hit the spot. We also enjoyed baked custard with huckleberry topping and a bowl of fresh strawberries brought by a guest.

The third course featured sweets. One guest brought delicious homemade biscotti (her trademark); another contributed darling teapot sugar cookies from a local bakery. I added German chocolate cupcakes, oatmeal cake, and sparkling apple cider. The ladies sampled a few sweets and took others home to enjoy later.

Of course, we had plenty of tea. I offered a variety of black, green, and herbal choices.

Savor Unique Memories

I set up a card table to display the antiques. Helen, who loves music, brought her father's violin. Valerie wore a gorgeous diamond ring that had been her mother's. Audrey brought flowers in a 120-year-old cherished vase that had belonged to her husband's grandmother. Joy, a doll collector with 500 dolls, brought three dolls for "show and tell" and some doll magazines we could keep. I used a serving plate from my childhood for the oatmeal cake—a recipe from an antique friend. I also set out a few teacups from my collection for the ladies to take as gifts.

It was fun to learn more about each friend as she shared her treasured antique. But the best treasure was catching up on each other's lives and praying together.

Afterwards, I received several emails. One said, "It was so much fun to see each other and talk together. Thank you for giving us all that experience. I loved praying together too." Another wrote, "Thank you for the wonderful tea and treats. You really do a grand tea. It was a good time to visit with everyone and pray together. Your deck and yard are a very nice place to relax from the Covid life."

(story continues on next page)

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Plan Your Antiqui-Tea

You don't need to be fancy or fussy, unless you wish to be. The main idea is to bless, not impress. Invite a few friends who would enjoy time together and ask them to bring a small antique to share. (Contributing to the menu is optional.) Then relax and enjoy a unique antique teatime that will bless others and create lasting memories—until the next teatime in a treehouse.

Lydia E. Harris is a tea enthusiast, grandmother, and author of *Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting* and *In the Kitchen with Grandma: Stirring Up Tasty Memories Together*. (The following recipes mentioned in this column can be found in her cookbook: scones, lemon curd, whipped cream, chilled strawberry soup, and baked custard.) Learn more about her books at amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and Christianbook.com.



From Lydia's Recipe File:

Old-Fashioned Oatmeal Cake with Broiled Topping

So moist and delicious, it takes the cake!

Ingredients for Cake

- 1 1/2 cups boiling water
- 1 cup quick oats
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 1/3 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

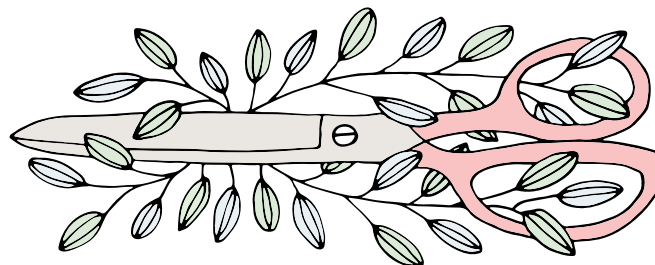
Ingredients for Topping

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 cup whipping cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 3/4 cup chopped walnuts (or pecans)
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 9 x 13-inch baking pan with nonstick cooking spray.
 2. In a small bowl, combine hot water and oats. Cover and let stand for 20 minutes.
 3. In a separate bowl, cream butter and sugars. Mix in eggs.
 4. Add softened oatmeal to the creamed mixture. Mix well.
 5. Combine the dry ingredients. Mix into the batter.
 6. Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes.
 7. While the cake bakes, prepare the topping.
 8. Mix melted butter, cream, and vanilla.
 9. Stir in sugar. Then add nuts and coconut.
 10. After the cake is baked, raise oven rack to 6 inches from the top. Set oven to broil.
 11. Spread topping over warm cake.
 12. Broil for 2 minutes, or until topping bubbles and the coconut and nuts are toasted and lightly browned. Watch carefully so the topping doesn't burn.
 13. Remove cake from oven. Serve warm or cool. Refrigerate leftovers.
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Begins with a burst of imagination.

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LITTLE DITTIES FOR EVERY DAY©2020

Pieces From My Heart

by Jan Keller

Out of the Cocoon


While watching her child's high school graduation ceremony, the mother thought back to the time when her grandfather had given her a cocoon attached to a twig. She was filled with wonder and amazement when he told her that a butterfly would emerge from the brown and dead-appearing chrysalis. He had also warned her that when the butterfly first appeared, she couldn't help it—or it would die. Several days after her wise grandfather's admonishment, a crack appeared and split the back of the cocoon. A bedraggled insect began struggling to free itself from its casing, searching for freedom and room to fly. To the child, the plight of this small damp insect seemed hopeless—that getting out of the cocoon so it could open its wings would be an impossible task. She thought of her grandfather's warning as she watched the struggling insect. But, ultimately, she could not help herself from aiding the emerging butterfly. She tried to help by stretching out its wings. The insect died. When her child's name was read, the mother came back to the present. She proudly beamed with joy as she watched her child, an emerging independent person, walk across the stage, shake hands with the school's dignitaries, and receive the diploma symbolizing adulthood. She remembered the times she had rocked a sick infant, aided the first steps of a baby, and mopped the floor after a toddler made unsuccessful and messy attempts to handle a spoon. She thought of all the countless times she had wiped away tears and cleaned up a skinned elbow or knee as her child grew. Yes—she had been a good and caring mother. She had been there during all the joys and struggles—and through them all, she had helped as best she could. Just as the insect had gone through various stages before becoming a butterfly—so had her child on the way to adulthood. She sensed her child's metamorphosis was nearing completion and the emerging adult would need space and room to fly. She knew life would not always be easy for her offspring. There would continue to be difficulties to overcome and lessons to learn. The mother breathed a silent prayer for strength—strength to watch the awaiting struggles of this emerging adult (who would always be her child), without hindering character development by helping. She knew life was at stake.



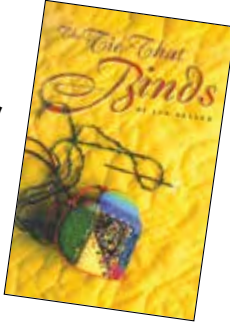
©2021 Jan Keller. No reprint without permission. Jan shares other pieces of her life in her books, *Pieces From My Crazy Quilt*, and *The Tie That Binds*. These books can be ordered by calling 719-749-9797, or writing: Black Sheep Books, 11250 Glen Canyon Drive, Peyton, CO 80831


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Every Antique Has a Story

by Dave Emigh

Stories about antiques don't often get much attention from the major national press organizations. However, early this year, you might have noticed a big story about a Chinese bowl that was purchased at a Connecticut estate sale.

The story was that a gentleman purchased a small blue and white porcelain bowl for \$35 that he thought might be something special. Appraisers determined that the "early 1400s" Chinese bowl was indeed special. That assessment was borne out when Sotheby's put the bowl up for auction and it sold for \$722,000.

From my perspective, a find like that is so rare that it is essentially a waste of time to even think about making a similar discovery.

That being said, seven years ago, I bought a small blue and white porcelain bowl in Turkey for the same 35 —whatever the exchange rate was. My daughters and I were shopping in Istanbul at the Grand Bazaar when I spotted it.

Now don't get ahead of me, it wasn't an ancient antique porcelain bowl. In fact, I never even thought that it was an antique. The stacks of the very same bowl in this market stall were also a dead giveaway. In my estimation, the bowl was much closer to being 14 days old than it was being from the 1400s.

The bowl that I bought was nice. But I actually bought it because of the great story about my interaction with the market vendor.

He opened with some version of "What is your wife's favorite color? Don't you think that she would like a nice blue bowl from Turkey? Please ignore the price of 90 that is marked on this bowl but how much would you pay for it?"

Me: "I'm not interested in that bowl and I wouldn't even give you..." I didn't know it then but at that point he had actually sold me the bowl. It was just a matter of how much he was going to get for it—35, as it turned out.

My daughters continued shopping in his market stall. They were not paying much attention to our interaction as we were off to one side of his stall. The vendor and I were well into fifteen minutes of "negotiating" when the girls finally took note. At that point, my oldest (who had lived in Europe for five years), sidled up to me. "Since you've taken up so much of his time, you are expected to purchase the bowl."

It seemed to me like my money was well spent because I bought a story and I also got a bowl. And seven years later, I've once again had the opportunity to tell the story. At least we know the story of how our Turkish bowl came to the United States. Who knows how long that story will stay in the family?

The story of how a Chinese bowl, purchased at an estate sale for \$3 and sold for \$722,000 at auction, is amazing in itself! However, from the first time that I read the article, I was more intrigued by how that bowl got to Connecticut in the first place.

I can't even image its back-story. Due to the bowl's age, there is no way that it was purchased and brought to America by a trader/tourist "14 days" after it was made. So, what is the story of the bowl? Was it purchased as an antique, in say the 1800s? Was it some sort of a gift in appreciation of...? Unfortunately, that story will never be known.

My daughters know the story of "my wife's blue bowl." Even if it stays in the family, how many generations will it take for the story to be lost? Almost certainly, the story of the Turkish bowl will be lost 700 years from now, just as the story of the 700-year-old Chinese bowl has been lost today.

Every antique has a history and a story. It is just that we don't always know that story. And, in fact, as time passes, the details of any story will become progressively less accurate. But that is the intriguing part. Each piece has its own story even if no one knows what it is.

Dave Emigh and his wife Jill are the owners of Shady Lawn Antiques in Walla Walla, WA, perfectly located in the 1870's wood-frame creamery buildings that Dave's great-grandfather purchased in 1897. Dave is a professionally trained woodworker and he and his son, Nick, specialize in the restoration of oak furniture. Shady Lawn, in its 27th year, has become a regional destination for oak furniture. It is also known for its well-curated display of country, rustic, and rare and unique "small" antiques. Glimpses of the ever-changing Shady Lawn inventory can be seen on Facebook and at www.shadylawnantiques.com.

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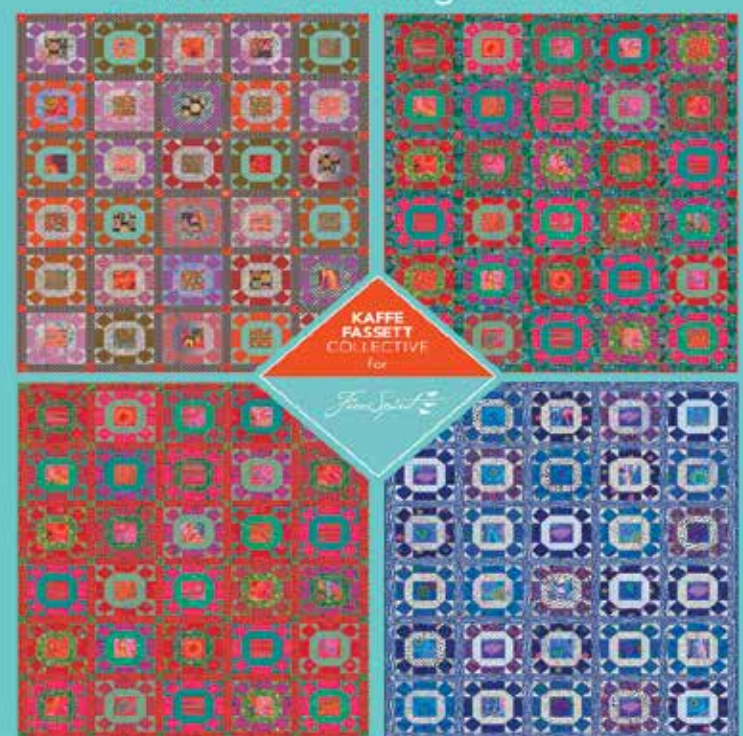
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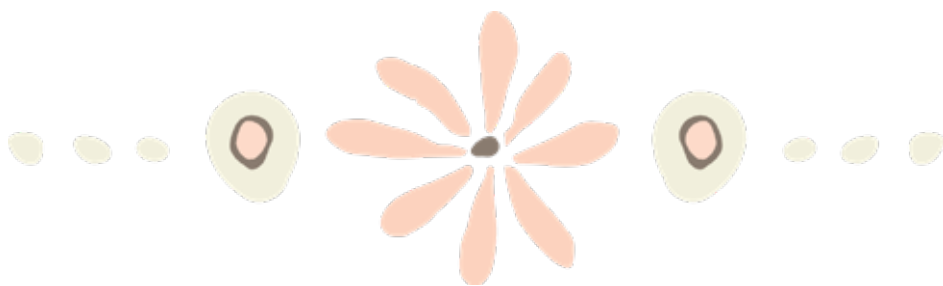
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We stock many full collections (featuring Northcott, Moda, and In The Beginning Fabrics) and a large assortment of solids and blenders... plus lots of patterns, books and samples to inspire you!

Classes and a variety of groups are also offered. Projects include quilting, machine embroidery, gifts, bags, and home décor for all skill levels. Although multiple Covid-related closings in Ontario have challenged our in-house class scheduling, a full roster of offerings is being assembled for the fall session (September – December). To add to the fun, we're thrilled to have recently become a Kimberbell Certified Event Shop (and we have an extensive inventory of Kimberbell products and fabric collections to choose from).

K & A Quilt Studio has a relatively short history. It was launched in the former office/cafe space of an industrial-style building. When the building was purchased by a company owned by Kate and her husband Roger, this space became redundant for the new company, and remained unoccupied for a few years. Kate often thought that the bright, attractive office area should be put to better (preferably quilting-related!) use, and in April 2018 K & A Quilt Studio opened its doors as a studio space for



K & A Quilt Studio, Kate Kropf & Ann Campbell

quilters to gather and learn.

Kate and Ann are long-time best friends who love to laugh, shop, and quilt! Both came to this endeavour from a business background and loved the new opportunities for creativity and community the Studio programs offered. However, it was no doubt inevitable that their passion for fabrics (and shopping!) would ultimately find expression in having a retail shop of their own. And so, January 2019 marked a new phase in the life of the Studio – a 1,500 sq. ft. retail store located right across the hall! Continued growth since then has included launching a Husqvarna Viking sewing machine dealership in December 2019 and moving to a larger building of their own in January of 2021.

Kate and Ann love connecting with fellow quilters and seeing first-hand their wonderful talents and creativity. In addition to helping customers find the perfect fabrics, supplies, or even sewing machine for their projects, they will continue to offer classes, clubs, and workshops for all skill levels.

They hope you will find K & A Quilt Studio an inspiring and happy place to shop – a place where you will always feel welcome and be greeted warmly. They also like to have fun, so don't be surprised to find there's always something worth checking out at K & A. Our doors are open, and we look forward to welcoming you, offering you assistance when we can, and perhaps sharing a silly laugh or two.



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Town and Country Cooking

By Janette Hess



Salads with substance

"Salad" has become a catch-all term for a myriad of side dishes. Isn't it odd that a salad can be anything from an extremely low-calorie toss of lettuce and vinaigrette to a stick-to-the-ribs combination of potatoes and mayonnaise?

A simple green salad doesn't require a recipe; these substantial salads do. Eggs, nuts, beans, shrimp, potatoes and bacon provide substance. Fruits, vegetables, spices and fresh herbs add flavor and color.

Curried Egg Salad and Cannellini Bean Salad with Shrimp contain generous amounts of protein. Both are hearty enough to double as entrees. Horseradish Potato Salad is a perfect dish for no-holds-barred picnics and cook-outs. With its one-two flavor punch of horseradish and bacon, it is not your mother's potato salad – until she demands the recipe!

Curried Egg Salad

- ½ cup regular or reduced-fat mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1½ teaspoons sugar
- 6 hard-cooked eggs, peeled and chopped
- 1 medium red apple, cored and chopped
- ¼ cup diced celery
- 1 or 2 radishes, diced
- 1 tablespoon diced red onion
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- Salad greens for serving
- ½ cup roughly chopped cashews for garnish

In medium bowl, combine mayonnaise, curry powder and sugar. Fold in chopped egg, apple, celery, radish and onion. Add salt and pepper to taste. Chill. Serve on bed of salad greens (or use as stuffing for croissants or vine-ripened tomatoes). Top with chopped cashews. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Horseradish Potato Salad

- 1 generous pound medium red potatoes, boiled just until tender
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup chopped red onion
- ½ cup chopped fresh parsley, plus extra for garnish
- 6 to 8 strips thick-sliced bacon, cooked very crisp and crumbled
- 2/3 cup mayonnaise
- 2/3 cup sour cream
- 4 teaspoons prepared horseradish
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

Do not peel potatoes. When cool enough to handle, chop and place in large bowl. Season with ¼ teaspoon salt. Chill. To assemble salad, toss chilled potatoes with onion, parsley and bacon. Combine mayonnaise, sour cream and horseradish. Fold into potato mixture. Season with pepper. Chill. Before serving, garnish with chopped parsley. Makes 4 generous cups potato salad. Double recipe if serving a large group.

Cannellini Bean Salad with Shrimp

- 1 16-ounce package pre-cooked, peeled, deveined and frozen shrimp (51-60 count)
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 15½-ounce cans cannellini (white kidney) beans, drained and rinsed
- ½ small red onion, cut into thin rings
- Freshly ground pepper to taste

Thaw shrimp in refrigerator according to package instructions. (May take up to 10 hours.) When thawed, remove and discard tails. In large bowl, whisk together olive oil, vinegar, mustard, dill and salt. Add drained shrimp, drained beans and onion. Add generous amount of freshly ground pepper. Refrigerate at least 1 hour to allow flavors to blend. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

A trained journalist, Janette Hess focuses her writing on interesting people and interesting foods. She is a Master Food Volunteer with her local Extension service and enjoys collecting, testing and sharing recipes.

Scavenger Hunt Adventures Are Outdoors' Fun for Kids

by Patty Duncan

A fun filled activity for kids this summer is an Outdoors Scavenger Adventure. Last year, I made adventure packages for both my grandkids and three neighborhood children. My grandkids were going to the mountains and were surprised with a late spring snowstorm. The neighborhood children were going on a July 4th camping weekend in the mountains.

A scavenger hunt is entertainment anytime. You can plan one for a summer picnic, camping weekend, a day at the park, summer vacation at the lake or beach or simply staying in your backyard or neighborhood.

It is easy to put together. All that is needed is a clipboard, small crafting clothespins, a colored pencil or crayon, a scavenger checklist and a hot glue gun. Clipboards, colored pencils and clothespins can be found at the dollar store.

Begin by hot gluing the clothespins to the front of the clipboard as shown in the picture. Glue the checklist to the backside. Make one for each participating child.

Look online for a scavenger hunt checklist. Many are free to download. I used a list I found online but changed some of the items on the list to adapt to the age of the children and to the geographic area in which they would be playing the adventure. My list included a pinecone, something smooth, something rough, flower or petal, two kinds of sticks, a pretty leaf and something unusual.

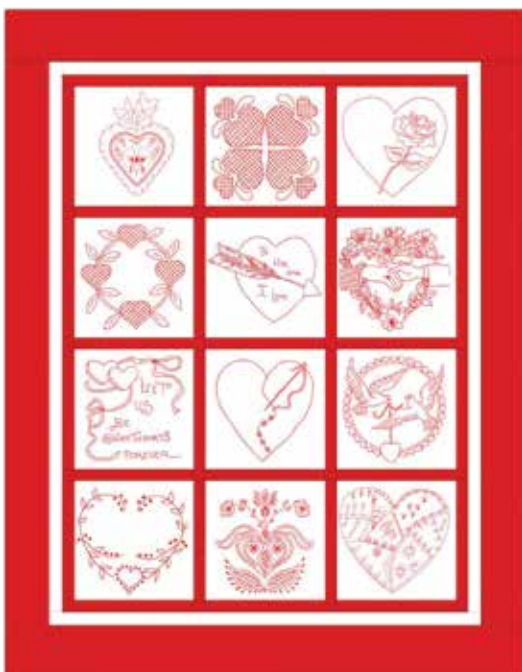
Scavenger Hunts are a great way for the kids to get outside and enjoy exploring their surroundings. It is also wonderful family fun for everyone.

Patty hails from Northern Virginia and has lived in Arizona for over 25 years where she spends a lot of time spoiling her grandchildren. She loves family history and genealogy as a hobby, small town history and photography. She is an avid scrapbooker and digital storybook maker. Patty works in the Sales Department of The Country Register.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL QUILT GUILD

Ajax	<i>Twisted Stitchers Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Ajax Legion at 7pm on the 2nd Tuesday on any month from September to June.
Alliston	<i>Quilting Corners Guild</i> We meet at St Johns United Church at 7pm on the first Tuesday or each month, except January.
Ancaster	<i>Ancaster Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Marshall Memorial United Church, 20 Gilbert Ave. at 7pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from September to June.
Arnprior	<i>Arnprior District Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Christian Education Centre, 257 John St. N. at 6:30 pm on the fourth Wed. of each month from Sept. to June.
Barrie	<i>Simcoe County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Simcoe County Museum, 1151 Hwy 26, Midhurst at 1:00 pm on the Fourth Thursday each month except the 2nd Thursday in Dec and 3rd Thursday in June, from September to June. <i>Kempfenfelt Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Lion's Gate Banquet Hall on Blake Street, the 3rd Thursday of the month from 7-9pm <i>Barrie Modern Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Grace United Church, 350 Grove St. East the last Thursday of the month, on alternate months from September to May - 7pm and on various Saturdays during the alternate months, for Activities and Workshops, from October to June.
Belleville	<i>Quinte Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Recreation Centre, 116 Pinnacle Street. At 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month.
Binbrook	<i>Binbrook Country Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Binbrook United Church, 2623 Binbrook Rd. 7:30 pm the last Monday of the month from Sept - Nov and Jan - June.
Bracebridge	<i>The Pine Tree Quilters' Guild of Muskoka</i> We meet at the Bracebridge Memorial Arena, 169 James St at 1:00 pm on the 2nd. Thursday of the month from September through June.
Brampton	<i>Brampton Quilters Guild</i> We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month from September to June at 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre, 292 Conestoga Dr, Brampton.
Brantford	<i>Brant Heritage Quilters</i> We meet at St George United Church at 7:30 pm. on the second Thursday of the month.
Brockville	<i>The Thousand Islands Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion,180 Park Street at 7 pm on the 4th Thursday evening of the month. No meetings December, January, July and August.
Buckhorn	<i>Buckhorn Area Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Hartley Hall, St. Mathews / St. Adian Anglican Church at 9:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of the month (excluding July, August and December).
Burlington	<i>Halton Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Mainway Recreation Centre, 4015 Mainway Dr. at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of the month from September through June).
Caledonia	<i>Caledonia Grand River Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at 7pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through June.
Cambridge	<i>Busy Hands Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Preston Scout House, 1580 Queenston Road at 9:30 am on the third Monday of each month.
Chatham	<i>Chatham-Kent Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at St. Paul's Congregational Church, 450 Park Ave W at 7pm on the third Wednesday each month, except December.
Cornwall	<i>Cornwall Quilters Guild</i> We meet at St. Mathews Lutheran Church, 1509 Second St West at 7pm every third Monday evening from September through May.
Courtice	<i>Clarington Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Faith United Church, 1778 Nash Road on at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month.
Dryden	<i>Sunset Country Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at 84 St. Charles Street at 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month.
Elliot Lake	<i>Elliot Lake Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Gentle Shepherd Church, 3 Ottawa Ave. at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays from September through June.
Elmira	<i>The Elmira Needle Sisters</i> We meet at the Elmira Mennonite Church at 7:00 pm on the fourth Monday of the month.
Etobicoke	<i>Etobicoke Quilters Guild</i> We meet at Neilson Park Creative Centre - 56 Neilson Dr. at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month.
Georgetown	<i>Halton Hills Quilters Guild</i> We Meet at the Cultural Centre, 9 church St. at 7:15 pm on the fourth Monday of the month (Sep-Nov, Jan-Jun)
Gloucester	<i>Common Thread Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Le Mouvement D'Implication Francophone D'Orléans (MIFO), 6600 rue Carriere in Orleans at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month from September through June.
Goderich	<i>Goderich Quilters' Guild</i> We meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday.
Grimsby	<i>Grimsby Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Livingston Activity Centre at 7pm on the third Thursday of the month.
Guelph	<i>Royal City Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Three Willows United Church, 577 Willow Road at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday each month from September until June.
Gwillimbury	<i>Gwillimbury Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Sharon-Hope United Church, 18648 Leslie St. at 1:00 pm on 4th Monday of the month from September through May.
Hagersville	<i>Haldimand Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Hagersville United Church at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of the month from September through June.
Haliburton	<i>Haliburton Highlands Quilter Guild</i> We meet at the Stanhope Community Centre, 1095 North Shore Rd, Algonquin Highlands at 1:00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month.
Hamilton	<i>Hamilton Quilters Guild</i> We meet The Church of Resurrection, 435 Mohawk Rd. W.at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September through August.
Ingersoll	<i>Oxford Quilters Guild</i> We meet month at the Ingersoll Creative Art Centre, 125 Centennial Lane (in Victoria Park) at 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday and 9:00 am on the first Thursday of each month.
Kanata	<i>The Kanata Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Glen Cairn United Church, 140 Abbeyhill Dr. at 9:30 am on the second Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Kemptville	<i>Kemptville Quilters Guild</i> We meet pm at the Kemptville Pentecostal Church 1964 County Road # 43 at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month (except for holiday Mondays).
Kenora	<i>Lake of the Woods Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at St. Louis Catholic Church, 912 Superior St in Keewatin at 7 PM on the second Thursday of the month.
Kingston	<i>Kingston Heirloom Quilters</i> We meet at St. Johns Anglican Church Hall in Portsmouth Village at 9:30 am on the first Tuesday and 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month.
Kingsville	<i>Erie Shores Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Kingsville Arena, 2nd floor at 7p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.
Kirkton	<i>Huron, Perth Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Kirktown/Wooddham Community Centre at 9:00 am on the second Tuesday of the month from September through May.
Kitchener - Waterloo	<i>The Waterloo County Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Parkside Community Room of the Parkside Arena in Waterloo at 1:30pm and 7:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month.
Lambton	<i>North Lambton Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Port Franks Hall on the 4th Wednesday of the month.
Limestone	<i>Limestone Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at The Senior's centre in Kingston at 7:15 pm on the first Wednesday of the month.
Lindsay	<i>Lindsay Creative Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Celebrations, 35 Lindsay St. N at 1:00 pm every 2nd Monday of the month except for October, December and June.
Manitoulin Island	<i>Island Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Community Hall in Mindemoya at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month from September though June.
Markdale	<i>Queen's Bush Quilters</i> We meet at Annesley United Church, 82 Toronto St. at 7:00 pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month from September to June.
Meaford	<i>Georgian Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Meaford Opera House, Sykes St. at 1:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month.
Mississauga	<i>Cawthra Senior's Centre</i> We meet at the Cawthra Senior's Centre at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and August). <i>Mississauga Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Tomken Twin Arenas at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and August).

Miramichi	<i>Miramichi Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Seamans Hospital at 7:00 pm every Tuesday and 10:00 am every Thursday.
Napanee	<i>Heritage Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Strathcona Paper Center at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of each month from September through to June.
Newmarket	<i>The Region of York Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Newmarket Community Centre, 200 Doug Duncan Drive on the fourth Wednesday of the month from September through May. <i>Moraine Quilt Guild</i> We meet in the hall at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church – 484 Water Street, Newmarket at 9:30 am – 12 Noon for Social Sew and 1:00-3:30 pm for the Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month year round.
Niagara Region	<i>The Niagara Heritage Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Merrion Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines on the third Wednesday of each month.
Nobleton	A chapter of the <i>Modern Quilting Guild</i> We travel to various locations in Southern Ontario on a rotating basis.
Norwich	<i>Quaker Quilt Guild</i> We meet at 89 Stover St N, Norwich at 9:30 am on the second Monday of the month.
Orangeville	<i>Dufferin Piecemakers' Quilting Guild</i> We meet at the Orangeville Event Centre at 7:30 pm on the third Monday of the month from September through June.
Orilla	<i>Orillia Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 215 Mississauga St. E. at 1:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.
Orono	<i>Ganaraska Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Seniors Activity Centre. 200 Station St. W at 7:15 pm on the last Wednesday of the month.
Oshawa	<i>Durham Trillium Quilters'</i> We meet at the Zion Christian Reformed Church 409 Adelaide Ave. E. Oshawa at 7:00pm every second Monday Sept.- June
Ottawa	<i>Almonte Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Almonte Civitan Club, 500 Almonte Street Active at 7:00 pm from September through June (no meeting in December). <i>Ottawa Valley Quilters Guild</i> We meet at St. Anthony's Soccer Club at 7:30 pm on the first Monday of the month. <i>QuiltCo</i> We meet at the Trinity Anglican Church in Old Ottawa South on the second Monday evening of the month except July and August. <i>Owen Sound Bluewater Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre, 1900 3rd Av E at 7:00 pm every third Monday from March to December (except May which is on the second).
Perth	<i>Lanark County Quilters Guild</i> We meet at Lions Hall, Perth Fairgrounds at 7pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month.
Pickering	<i>Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Peace Lutheran Church, 928 Liverpool Road, Pickering at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the month September through May, excluding December.
Port Loring	<i>Argyle Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Lions Den in Arnstein on the second Thursday of the month.
Port Perry	<i>Port Perry Patchers</i> We meet at the Hope Christian Reform Church, 14480 Old Simcoe Rd. in Prince Albert at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Prince Edward	<i>Prince Edward County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the BCR Church in Bloomfield at 7:00 pm County on the second Wednesday of each month.
Rayside	<i>Rayside Balfour Quilting and Stitchery Guild</i> We meet at the Chelmsford Arena (upstairs) 215 Edward Avenue, Chelmsford, Ontario at 7:00 p.m. every Monday from September to May.
Renfrew	<i>Quilt Guild Renfrew & Area</i> We meet at the Horton Community Centre, 1005 Castleford Road, Horton from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from September to June.
Richmond	<i>Richmond Area Quilters Guild (RAQG)</i> We meet at the Richmond Legion, 6430 Ottawa Street at 7:30 on the third Wednesday of each month.
Ruthven	<i>Erie Shores Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Ruthven-Olinda United Church every third Tuesday.
Sarnia	<i>Sarnia Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Redeemer Christian Reformed Church 5814 Blackwell Sldr, Sarnia at 7pm the first Monday of each month.
Sault St. Marie	<i>Stitches From The Heart Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Senior's Centre on Bay St at 7pm the last Monday of the month.
Scarborough	<i>Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Peace Lutheran Church, 928 Liverpool Road, Pickering at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the month September through May, excluding December.
Simcoe	<i>Twilight Quilters' Guild of Norfolk County</i> We meet at the Old Wyndham Church, 30 Glendale Crescent at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month. <i>Norfolk County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Vittoria & District Community Centre on the first Tuesday of each month except October.
Stittsville	<i>The Quilters Club</i> We meet at the The Pretty Street Community Centre at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month.
St Marys	<i>The Stonetowne Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the End Zone Room of the Pyramid Centre at 9:30 am on the third Tuesday of the month from September to May.
Stony Creek	<i>Stoney Creek Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 12 King Street East, at 6:30 pm on first Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Sudbury	<i>Sudbury & District Quilting & Stitchery Guild</i> We meet at 140 Durham Street at 7:00 pm on every Tuesday from September to April.
Sutton	<i>The Georgina Pins and Needles</i> We meet at the Knox United Church 34 Market Street at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month from September to June.
Thunder Bay	<i>Thunder Bay Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Calvin Luthern Church on Edward Street at 7:30pm on the 3rd Monday of each month from September to June.
Toronto	<i>Etobicoke Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Neilson Park Creative Centre at 7:15 pm on the third Monday of the month. <i>Pieceful Nights Quilters' Guild of North Toronto</i> meets the second Wednesday of each month. During COVID-19 meetings will be held via Zoom. Guests welcome. https://www.pnag.ca . <i>Toronto Modern Quilt Guild</i> We meet at The Workroom Studio, 46 Nobel St Studio 102 at 3:00 pm on the last Sunday of each month. <i>York Heritage Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Toronto Botanical Gardens on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from September through May. <i>Yorkshire Rose Quilters' Guild of Toronto</i> We meet at Danforth Mennonite Church, 2174 Danforth Avenue at 7:30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month from September through May.
Wasaga Beach	<i>Slope to Slope Quilters Guild</i> We meet in the Community Hall at the Wasaga Stars Arena at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month September through June.
Waterloo	<i>The Waterloo County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet the Albert McCormick Community Centre at 1:30 pm and 7pm on the third Wednesday of each month from September through June
Whitby	<i>Kindred Hearts Guild</i> We meet at the Whitby Baptist Church on the third Tuesday of the month.
Windsor	<i>Windsor's quilters Guild</i> We meet at Fogular Furlan Club, 1800 E.C. Row at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month from September to June.
York Region	<i>The Moraine Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church at 1:00 on the first Wednesday of the month.



Redwork Embroidery Items Have Become Popular Again

by Rachel Greco

Have you ever noticed those antique red embroidery quilts and needlework items? Popular from about 1880-1920, Redwork items are popular again. Made with red embroidery thread on a white ground, Redwork has a fascinating history.

To create these embroidered items, patterns were stitched in cotton thread on a muslin background. Prior to the availability of DMC cotton embroidery floss in the United States, color options for cotton thread were quite limited, even though many color choices were available in silk or wool embroidery floss. Using cotton thread for this type of needlework was a more economical choice. Red (and sometimes blue) became the preferred color and could be counted on not to fade or bleed.

Redwork embroidery became such a fad that, before long, women were creating table and luncheon cloths, dishtowels, quilt blocks, pillow shams, pillowcases, tea towels, splashers (used behind a wash bowl), shelf decorations and anything else they felt needed a bit of embroidery.

Catalogues of the time offered "penny squares" that were small sheets of muslin stamped with an embroidery pattern, ready to stitch. Prices ranged from mere pennies (five or six cents each) to 35 or 50 cents, depending on the detail of a particular design. Reminiscing about an earlier time, older women have told me stories of how they would go to the local dry goods store as a little girl to pick out an embroidery pattern for stamping. Once the shop owner had transferred the pattern to muslin and let it dry, they would take it home to embroider. These ladies said they stitched their penny squares during their free time and looked forward to the next Saturday shopping trip in order to pick out the next Redwork design.

Redwork quilt blocks were easy to make and children were often given penny squares to work on, especially when convalescing from an illness. Once a child had created enough penny squares, they would be stitched into a quilt top. Seams were often covered with feather stitching. Many times, these tops were not quilted but left as a bed covering, although during the 1930s, many women thought these earlier coverings needed to be "quilted up."

Shop owners used products such as Walter P. Webber's Modern Stamping Material to create a penny square pattern. Instructions for its use included pouring a bit of kerosene oil or benzine into a dish. A pad made of felt, or scrap cotton would be saturated with the oil, then rubbed over the paste so that the coloring would absorb into the pad. Next, a design would be placed onto the fabric to be stamped and the saturated pad would be rubbed over it to create the desired pattern.

Themes for stitching these penny squares included historical figures, animals, flowers, household items, fruit and vegetables, children, and nursery rhymes. The pictures had different meanings. For instance, horseshoes were a sign of good luck, angels ensured the safekeeping of children, spider webs caught dreams, and flowers had various secret meanings.

Born in 1913, my own grandmother recalled how, at the age of six, she learned to create Redwork embroidery designs that she called "fancy

work." Her mother insisted she devote thirty minutes each day to the task before she could go out and play. When I was nine years old, my grandmother began to teach me this skill. Pleasant afternoons were spent stitching penny squares while grandmother, a history buff, told family stories and tales of what "women's work" consisted of in days gone by. She reminded me that "back in the day," waiting until the age of nine to learn needlework was considered quite "old." Now a Grandma myself, I spend a great deal of time researching Redwork patterns and stitching up penny squares.

Rachel Greco owns *Grandma's Attic*, a traditional quilt shop in Dallas, Oregon. A quilt historian and avid reader, she gives talks on needlework, the role of women in American history and their connection to fabric. She has authored several books and patterns, and runs *Grandma's Quilt Club*, a monthly quilt class where participants collect quilt blocks, learn about quilt history and make new friends. Look for her at www.grandmasatticquilting.com.

The Layers of Magic

by Kerri Habben Bosman

Sometimes a memory climbs through the decades, and I am 9 years old again. I listen as a ball lands on a piece of wood. This ball was slightly smaller than a tennis ball and had a harder composition. It swirled with colors, and it bounced incredibly well. It made the most satisfying thunk as it rebounded off the stone floor. My grandmother kept the ball on a shelf next to the door to their screened-in porch. Beside the ball lived a narrow piece of siding about ten inches long and four inches wide.

Sometimes I merely bounced this ball in the porch, making it climb as high as I could without hitting the ceiling. I wasn't allowed to play with a ball inside, yet there I was surrounded by walls made of screens.

Therein lies some magic.

I can still feel the sweat prickling my skin and also the respite from the summer sun. More than that, I sense the people who were with me then. My grandmother and grandfather, who I called Huba and Poppy, and my grandmother's brother and sister, Aunt Wilma and Uncle Henry. Each of these steady, loving people lived across the street from us when I was growing up. I was lucky to have daily doses of what felt like two sets of grandparents.

The ball and siding game was a summer ritual for us. Huba and I stood on opposite ends of the rectangular porch. Usually Uncle Henry, with his gentle precision, would place the piece of siding in the center of the floor. The wood was a slightly warped and rocked back and forth.

We threw the ball to each other, trying to hit the siding and also have it project the ball to the other person. Poppy and Aunt Wilma would count how often we achieved this. Sometimes we simply tallied up when the ball made that delicious cracking sound against the wood. We kept a mental score, but no one ever won or lost.

I wonder if the adults enjoyed it as much as I did. I believe they did, as there was always laughter. Perhaps they appreciated it even more than I did. Unlike a child, they knew the true value of a carefree moment.

Huba and Uncle Henry each had more important things to do than simply play with me. Poppy and Aunt Wilma had larger concerns than the amount of times a ball struck a piece of siding. Both of the latter were either using a walker or in a wheelchair. Poppy struggled with Parkinson's Disease, and Aunt Wilma was limited by carotid artery disease. Huba and Uncle Henry were their caregivers. My mother, while caring for her own family, assisted them with whatever they needed.

Every day Huba did laundry and remade beds. She and Uncle Henry assisted Poppy and Aunt Wilma with washing, dressing, and walking.

Yet, they found time for a child's fascination with a ball and a piece of siding. They gave me a summer memory I could carry with me through all the seasons of my life. They were teaching me how to live through their ability to balance each challenge and every joy. It is a lesson I didn't know I was learning until I needed it later on.

Therein lies more magic.

These years later, I treasure the privilege of being a bonus grandparent to my husband's seven grandchildren. When I am with them, I feel my grandparents and Aunt Wilma and Uncle Henry. I sense how they lived and loved. Then I do my best to carry it on.

Therein lies the complete magic.

Kerri Habben Bosman is a writer in Chapel Hill, NC. She is currently working on a book of essays and poetry. She can be reached at 913jeeves@gmail.com.

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Cowgirl Poet, Quilter, Entertainer



Yvonne Hollenbeck

The Sale Bill

*Here's a new poem that is (sadly)
based on a true story.*

She was raised in the Depression; the hard times she knew well.
If she ever had much money, no one could ever tell
because she lived a simple lifestyle, and did the best she could.
Dressed her kids in homemade clothes and raised them up real good.

Then when the grandkids came along, she loved to have them stay;
they loved her homemade cooking and the time she took to play.

But soon they got too busy, as most teenagers do,
and how she missed their visits and, of course, their phone calls too.

So she whiled away the loneliness by making each a quilt;
made from pieces she had saved from all the clothes she'd built
for them since they were babies, and she couldn't wait to see
the smiles when they received their quilt, how thrilled each one would be.

She was waiting for their visits, which she knew would be someday,
but the somedays turned to months and years and when she passed away
the quilts were on the sale bill...the list is rather small,
but I think I will attend it and try to buy them all.

She had placed a label on each one on which she wrote their name,
signed, "Made With Love From Grandma," I felt it was a shame.
but I'll give them to her grandkids, and hear what they will say
and I will get to see their smiles...the sale's next Saturday.

© Yvonne Hollenbeck; 2021

Yvonne Hollenbeck, from Clearfield, SD, performs her original poetry throughout the United States, captivating audiences in her wake. She is one of the most published cowgirl poets in the West and is not only a popular banquet and civic entertainer, but also co-writes songs with many western entertainers. Yvonne also pens a weekly column in the "Farmer-Rancher Exchange" and writes articles about life in rural America in various publications throughout the West. For more information, visit <https://www.yvonnehollenbeck.com>

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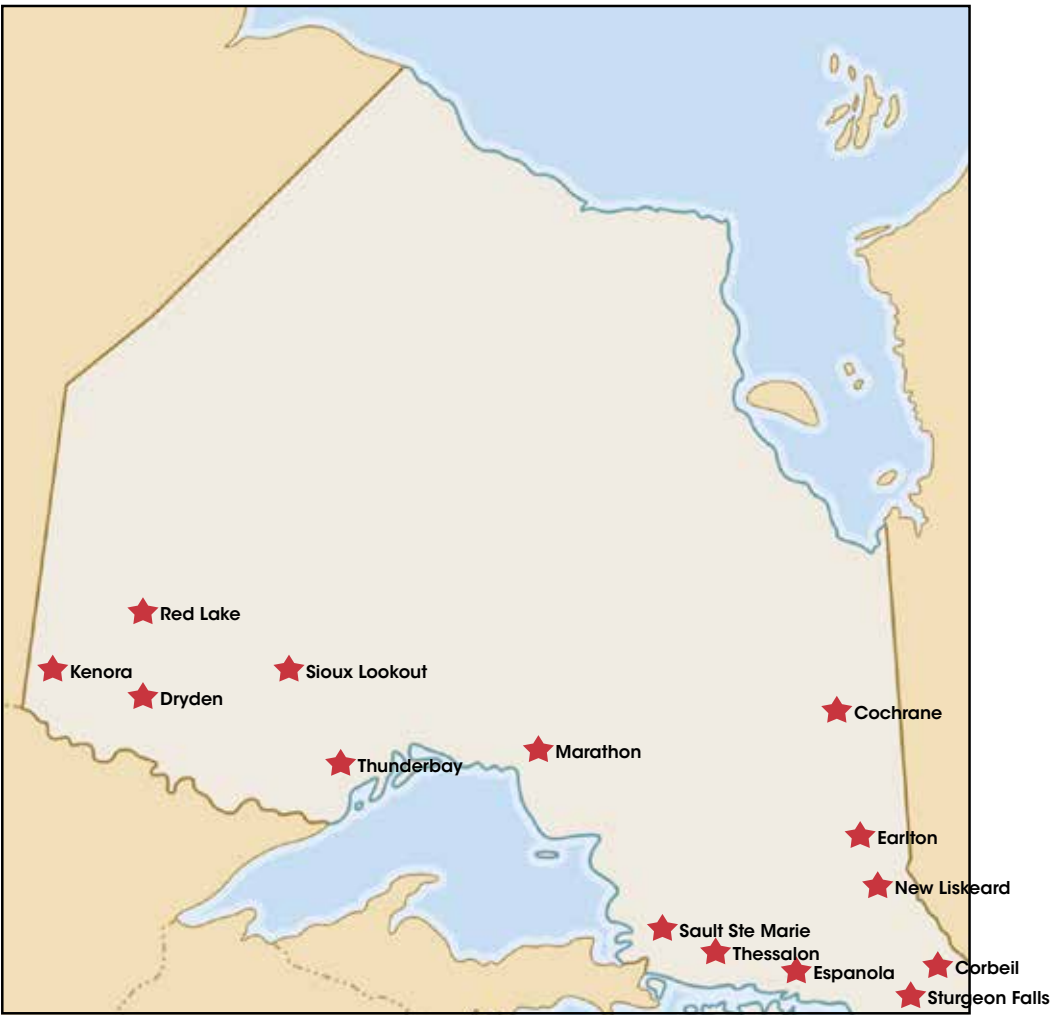
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Bunting Swag Lap Afghan

by Kirby Gust



This pattern was inspired by the red, white and blue half circle bunting seen everywhere in the States on the 4th of July, and I think it would look quite nice crocheted with Americana yarn. This pattern took me 4 tries to get right. My first few tries left me with an afghan that was about an inch wider every 4 rows. I finally figured out how to even it out as I worked the rows. The afghan is 92 stitches wide, but some rows have 93 stitches while others have 114. I found myself counting the row stitches every 6 rows just to make sure I hadn't added or omitted any stitches. I hope you enjoy this slightly challenging pattern. I used 6 balls of a #5 bulky worsted yarn and a 5.5mm hook, but a medium weight yarn will give you close to the same results. The afghan measures approximately 30 inches wide by 38 inches long. As a bonus, when using this afghan as a lap warmer you can push your fingers through the buntings to keep them warm as well. I changed yarn colours every time the ball of yarn ran out, but I think it would look quite nice if you changed colour after every 6 or 12 rows.

Difficulty: Medium/Hard

ch = Chain

sc = Single Crochet

sl-st = Slip Stitch

dc = Double Crochet

ch 1 and turn counts as first sc throughout

ch 3 and turn counts as first dc throughout

Chain 95

- Row 1:** dc in 3rd ch from hook. Dc in each chain till end. (92 dc). Ch 3 and tune
- Row 2:** dc into each dc across. Ch 3 and turn.
- Row 3:** dc into each dc across. Ch 1 and turn
- Row 4:** sc into next 2 dc. 2 sc in next dc *Ch 5, skip next 3 dc and sl-st in next dc* repeat from *-* 20 times. Sc into next 4 dc, ch 3 and turn.
- Row 5:** dc in next 3 sc. *dc into the same space as the sl-st. Working in front of the chain 5 loop dc into the next 3 dc* repeat from *-* 20 times. Dc in next 5 sc. Ch 3 and turn. (93 dc across)(all stitches in this row except for the first 4 and last 5 are worked into row 3)
- Row 6:** Dc into next 4 dc. *Work 4 dc around the next chain 5 loop, skipping the next 3 dc from row 5 in the process. Dc into the next dc (this is the dc that is worked into the sl-st)* repeat from *-* 20 times. Dc into the next 4 dr. ch 3 and turn. (114 dc across)
- Row 7:** dc into next 3 dc. *Skip the next dc, dc into the next 4 dc* repeat from *-* 20 times. Skip the next dc, dc into the next 4 dc. Chain 3 and turn.(92 dc)
- Row 8:** dc into each dc across. Ch 3 and turn.
- Row 9:** dc into each dc across. Ch 1 and turn.
- Rows 10 – 15:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 16 – 21:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 22 – 27:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 28 – 33:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 34 – 39:** repeat rows 4– 9
- Rows 40 – 45:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 46 – 51:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 52 – 57:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 58 – 63:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 64 – 69:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Rows 70 – 75:** repeat rows 4 – 9
- Row 76:** sc into each dc across.
- Tie off and work in ends.

Kirby Gust is a self-taught crocheter, gardener and woodworker. He has been designing both furniture and afghan crochet patterns for over 20 years. Kirby and Colleen Gust are publishers of the Manitoba & Saskatchewan Country Register. Kirby is the author of Borderline Good and Kirby's Korner that appear in their publications of the Country Register. Kirby's woodworking can be seen on both Facebook and Instagram under the name, The White City Woodworker.



Countryberries Designs

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Designed by Kathy Graham

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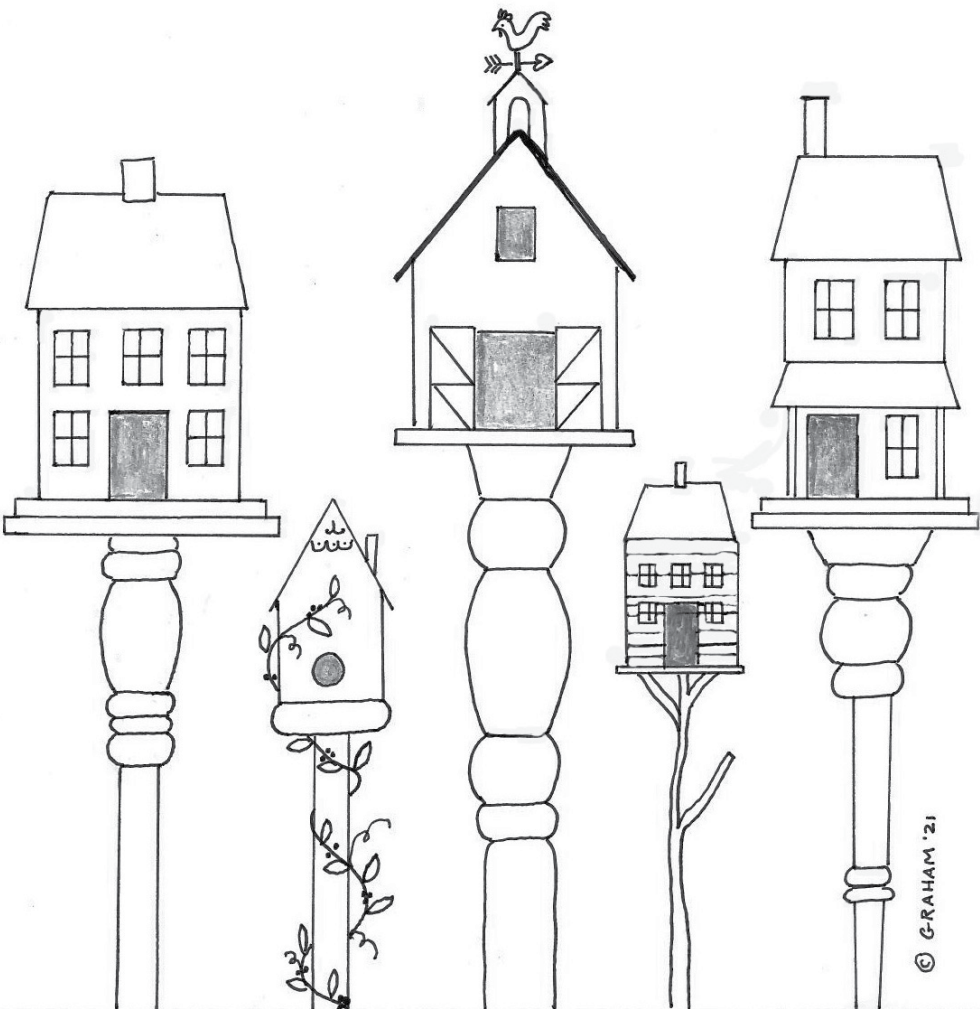
Enlarge this pattern to your desired size. This pattern was designed to be painted but can be needlepunched, hooked, embroidered or appliqued. It can also be colored with crayons, pencils or markers.
Have fun!

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