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Marylands Guide to Specialty Shopping & Premier Events



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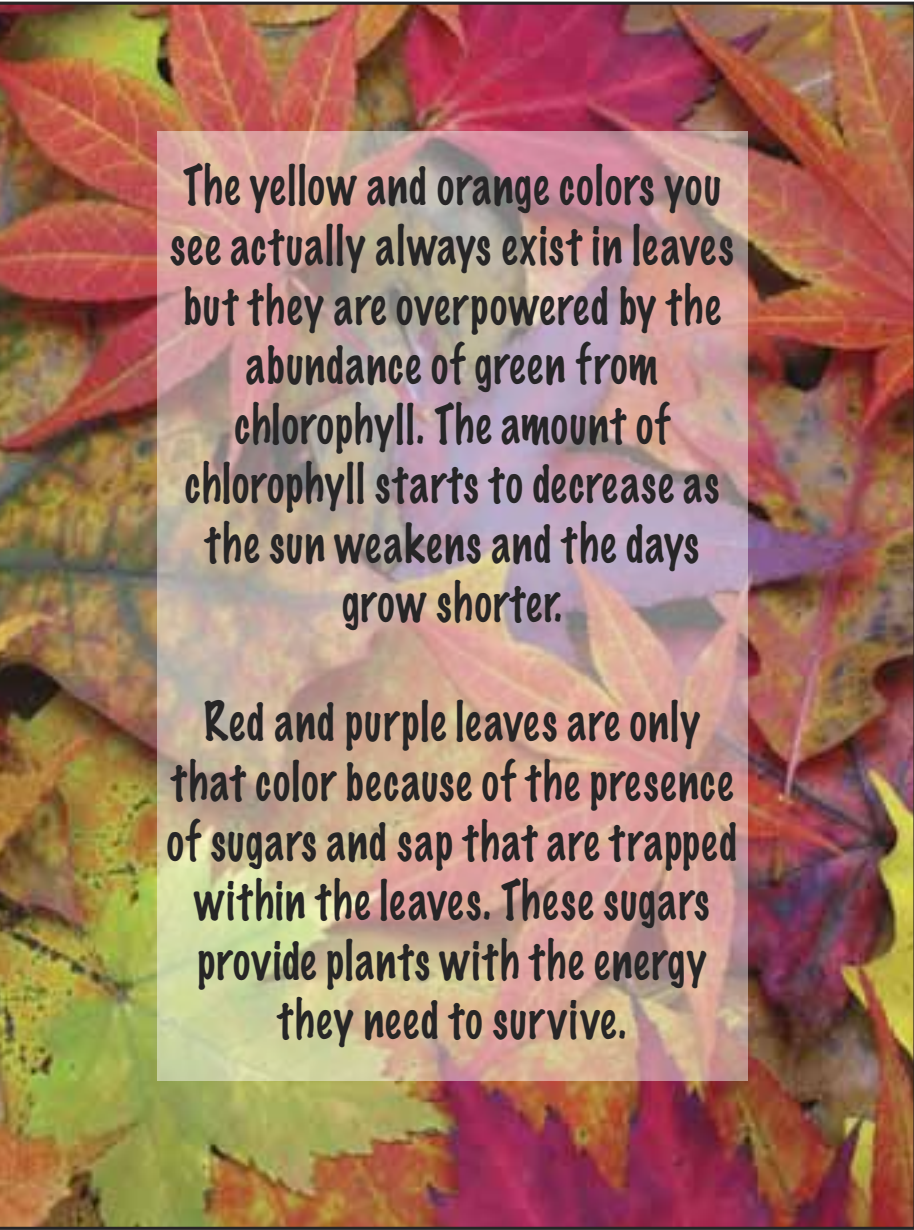
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The yellow and orange colors you see actually always exist in leaves but they are overpowered by the abundance of green from chlorophyll. The amount of chlorophyll starts to decrease as the sun weakens and the days grow shorter.

Red and purple leaves are only that color because of the presence of sugars and sap that are trapped within the leaves. These sugars provide plants with the energy they need to survive.



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Contact: Lynora Williams at aaqb.treasurer@gmail.com

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P.O. Box 31528 • Baltimore, MD 21207

www.aaqb.org

Meets at St. Bartholomew's Church • Baltimore, MD 21229

First Saturday of each month



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P.O. Box 47332 District Heights, MD 20747

Meet monthly on 3rd Saturdays at St. Barnabas Episcopal Anglican Church, Upper Marlboro, MD

Website: www.uhuruquiltersguildinc.org



Village Quilters of Catonsville MD Quilt Guild

Preserve and promote the art and heritage of quiltmaking.

We meet September - June on the third Thursday of the month.

Meeting place: The Stafford Hall, Catonsville, MD

Contact: contact@villagequiltersmd.com

Website: https://villagequiltersmd.com

Would you like to have your Quilt Guild listed?
Contact us today to hear how you can get listed as well as receive a discount on any advertising for your guild events!
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2nd Annual 12 Days of Holiday Baking

Send in your favorite holiday baking recipes including cookies, cakes, appetizers, main dishes, etc!
Entries will be included in the November/December issue in the 12 Days of Holiday Baking special!

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 Somewhere in Maryland the image to the right can be found.
 Where is it?
 (Answer on page 9 of this issue)



Free Pattern

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www.JacquelynneSteves.com



Free Embroidery Pattern – May not be sold or used for commercial purposes. Use this pattern for embroidery, wool applique, punch needle or rug hooking, painted projects or whatever your imagination can dream up! Reduce or enlarge pattern as desired.



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On this day in History

September 21, 1780: American General Benedict Arnold meets with British Major John Andre to discuss handing over West Point to the British, in return for the promise of a large sum of money and a high position in the British army. The plot was foiled and Arnold, a former American hero, became synonymous with the word "traitor."

October 8, 1871: Flames spark in the Chicago barn of Patrick and Catherine O'Leary, igniting a two-day blaze that kills between 200 and 300 people, destroys 17,450 buildings, leaves 100,000 homeless and causes an estimated \$200 million (in 1871 dollars; more than \$4 billion today) in damages. Legend has it that a cow kicked over a lantern in the O'Leary barn and started the fire.

Information found on www.history.com

Pumpkin Apple Cinnamon Mug Cake

Ingredients:

- 4 tbsp flour
- 2 tbsp pumpkin puree
- 1 tbsp applesauce
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1/4 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp ground cinnamon
- pinch of nutmeg
- pinch of salt

Directions:

1. In a microwave safe mug, mix flour, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt.
2. Stir in pumpkin puree, applesauce and oil until smooth.
3. Microwave on high for 1 minute 15 seconds to 1 minute 30 seconds.
4. Let cool for 1 minute.
5. Top with powdered sugar, whipped cream, cinnamon and/or chopped nuts.



Photo by The Recipe Mingle

Recipe by The Recipe Mingle

Life in Skunk Hollow

by Julie A Druck

A Year with Jane Austen



This year being the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birthday, I was inspired to celebrate this lady and her outstanding works of literature. Over the last few months, I've taken to reading some of her novels that I hadn't read before, attending special Jane Austen events at libraries in our area, watching some of the films and British television productions of her works, and listening to historical fiction based on her life. I've taken a virtual tour of Austen's home in Chawton where she crafted the majority of her books and have been reading biographies of her, as well as a compilation of some of the letters that she wrote to others. And last but not least, culminating with her December 16th birthday, I hope to have a special tea party commemorating the event—I'm sure my granddaughters would be happy to attend.

Not only do I love the language and themes of Austen's writings, but I'm fascinated with the time period in which her works were set—that of the Regency Period from 1811 to 1820. Through her books and the period movies I've watched, I am utterly fascinated by a radically different lifestyle than our own very casual culture. I don't wish to discount the difficulties of the period relating to the many issues surrounding class distinction, the plight of the poor, and the legal limitations that greatly affected women. But I can't help admiring the beautiful empire waist dresses, graceful dance steps, gorgeous country estates, and the genteel manners of the period.

As I've immersed myself in the world and works of Jane Austen, I've been pondering some of the themes and patterns that have shown themselves to be noticeably prevalent in her stories:

- Manners matter. The beauty of the bows and curtsies in greetings, the discretion in conversation and respectful demeanor, and the chivalrous behavior of gentleman make me wish those things were more prevalent today. Oh, of course, there were (and are) the manipulative George Wickhams and unprincipled John Willoughbys, but their contrasting presence clearly highlights the beauty that's found in the thoughtfulness and kindness of the words and manners of most of her characters.

- Beauty is more than skin deep. Though I love the light and flowing dresses of the period, as well as the curling hairstyles, what makes my favorite Austen heroines most beautiful in my eyes are their characters. Elinor Dashwood is my favorite—her simple physical beauty is greatly enhanced by a gentle spirit and selfless devotion towards her loved ones. Jane Bennet has beauty of face but her kind heart that is always looking at the best in others is what draws me to her. Contrast those characters with the arrogant Mrs. Elton and the spoiled Emma Woodhouse (before her humbling reality check in self-awareness), and it's clear the best kind of beauty is found deeper than on the surface.

- Simple pleasures provide joy and contentment. I never tire of reading of the pastimes of Austen characters. From strawberry picking parties to needlework by the fire, from long walks along country lanes to holidays by the seaside, the pastimes of her characters remind me that one doesn't need to attend a fancy ball (though they had those, too!) in order to find pleasure.

So, I will continue my celebration of all things Austen. More importantly, I hope some of what's best about her characters will rub off on me. For who doesn't want to be more courteous, more beautiful, and more content?

Thanks, Jane—and Happy Birthday.

Julie Druck is from York, Pennsylvania, and writes from her farm in Skunk Hollow. She'd welcome your comments at thedrucks@netzero.com.



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Pieces From My Heart

by Jan Keller

Autumn Leaves

The distant horizon greets me as I walk through a landscape painted with the rich warm tones of gold, crimson and bronze. The gentle autumn breeze, even on a sunny day, possesses an unmistakable chill.

Overhead, the leaves clinging desperately to barren branches rustle a melody of greeting as I pass. With an accompanying percussion rhythm, the brittle fallen leaves scrunch into countless dried bits as they cushion my steps.

I like the gentle, warm and sunny autumn days known as Indian Summer. The out-of-doors beckons. I long to take respite from the busyness of day-to-day routine to recreate my being.

My lungs expand with exhilarating fresh brisk air. The stress, worry and frets of the day are exhaled, releasing me from their exhausting drain on my energy.

Hidden in the grass out under a big willow tree I spot a cottontail. With lop-ears tucked down close to his body, he blends in with the natural terrain. Except for his large, acutely perceptive and frightened eyes, I might not see him.

Once I'm past, the furry animal relaxes his tense muscles and hops off in the opposite direction.

High overhead in a large oak tree, a pair of squirrels bicker at one another. I smile and think, "Those two must be married."

The red robin is gone, but a V-formation of high-flying geese honk their way across a clear azure sky. Their migration south is a predictable sight of the season.

Autumn can appear a dreaded drab time, focusing on death, dying and the stark reality of the severe elements. The wildflower blossoms lose their bright blush and the wild grasses are no longer green. Their apparent life force has been snuffed out by a freezing blast from the north wind.

Survival of the fittest is the governing role of nature. Through the long cold winter, the old or weakened animals will succumb, falling victim to harsh decree.

At the appointed season, the quiet darkness of death is natural. Even welcome.

Just as day follows night, spring will follow a winter of rest. Seasons turn into years. Years accumulate into lifetimes. The future will belong to the progeny.

Geese will make a return flight when winter is past. The blades of grass will sprout and flowers will grow and bloom anew. When the robin returns, a nest will be built high in a tree, barely visible, hidden amidst the strong branches and fresh growth of lush green leaves. In the spring, prolific signs of new life will be witnessed throughout the realm of nature.

But today, as I walk through a landscape painted with the rich warm tones of gold, crimson and bronze autumn leaves, I feel a cold wind that follows the setting of the sun. The wind whisks past and stings my unprotected cheeks.

Wishing I could retreat to a sanctuary of immunity, I am reminded of the revitalizing necessity of a time to rest.



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Cafeteria Prophecy

by Kerri Habben Bosman

The old saying "Many a true word is said in jest," came true in a special way for me. For that I am extremely grateful.

But first, I must set the stage. It begins with the cafeteria my family and I went to for many years. K&W Cafeteria is a regional business begun in 1935 and is still in existence today, although only a few remain. The effects of pandemic were not kind to this breed of restaurant and much of the cafeteria business now leans more into the catering industry.



When I was growing up, however, there was a K&W a few miles from our house. It was often where we'd go out to eat. Of course, these were the days this was more of a special occasion than a regular occurrence. We'd get dressed up to go and dining somewhere other than home, which seemed both comfortable and exotic all at the same time.

I loved the K&W. There was the tantalizing aroma of the food as you walked in. During the wait in the sometimes long line, I would think about what I wanted and ponder trying something new. Yet, I almost always got the chicken and dumplings, green beans, and chocolate crème pie for dessert.

All of the choices spread out was stunning to see, but ultimately the K&W's charm was more about the servers themselves. There they were, over steaming plates of food but they still usually ladled out a "here you go, sugar" or "you enjoy that, honey."

I am not sure how this happened with it being a cafeteria, but once in a while we brought food home. Both my grandfather and great-aunt were in wheelchairs and they'd let us skip the line to get them settled at the table. I especially loved the times I was the one to deliver their food to them. At any rate, somehow, we ended up with a table knife engraved with K&W.

So, at last, we cut to the heart of this article. The K&W knife that foretold my future. That assertion might be a little fanciful on my part, but this is my story and I'm sticking to it.

For many of my single years, nearly every time I took that knife out of the drawer, I would say to my mother that I needed to find a man whose name started with "W." Our dates would be to the K&W. Each visit we could acquire a fork here, a spoon there and by the time we married, we'd have a full set of our own personalized silverware. For nearly two decades I didn't date anyone because somehow no one ever compelled me enough. In another time I would have been called a "spinster." So, my knife joke was a nod to my inner hope that one day the right person would come along and I would recognize him when he did.

I want to assure you that I did not choose Wayne just because his name begins with a "W." In fact, I didn't even know his name when I first saw the gentleness in his eyes and the warmth of his smile. And my intuition kicked in at the right time, just as I'd hoped.

After six years together and just celebrating our fifth wedding anniversary, we still have our very own personalized knife.

The rest of the prophecy didn't come to pass. One, we are not kleptomaniacs. And two, we never really "dated" at all. We sensed the most vital trait within each other—we both love with the same devotion and focus. With that awareness, we quickly melded into the loveliness of ordinary days spent together and with family.

And actually, we have never eaten together at a K&W.

Kerri Habben Bosman is a writer living in Cape Carteret, NC. Her email is 913jeeves@gmail.com

Recipe: S'mores Bars
submitted by June Becklin

Ingredients:

- 1 box graham crackers
- 16 oz mini marshmallows
- 4 Hershey's Bar
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter

Directions:

Lightly spray 9x13" baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. Break the graham crackers into smaller pieces. Place in a bowl. Break the chocolate bars into smaller pieces. Place in a separate bowl. In a large pot over low heat, combine the butter and all of the marshmallows except reserve 1/3 cup for later. Stir until the mixture is melted. Remove the pan from the heat. Add in the graham crackers and stir to mix. Add in the chocolate pieces and remaining marshmallows, stir to mix. evenly press the s'mores bars into the pan and allow them to cool

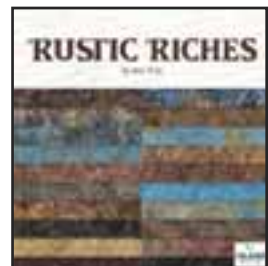


Kissed Quilts

by Marlene Oddie
Rustic Riches

At fall harvest time in the wheatfields around here, the amber waves of grain have their own beauty. I decided to work with this new collection from Lumin Fabrics, Island Batik Division, called Rustic Riches and design this Prairie Stars quilt.

This batik collection seemed just perfect to make into a quilt that some how represented the beautiful amber tones in our local wheatfields and the stars that harvest it.



This is broken down into two blocks – a star block and a single Irish chain block along with sashings and cornerstones. I've selected a Neutral called Mocha as the background. This pattern includes how to do a faux piped binding. I used the teal as the accent in the faux piping and it just gives it an extra touch of elegance.

I hope you've been enjoying the designs this year, I've got one more to share before year end.

Ask at your local quilt shop that carries Island Batik fabrics for these fabrics and pattern. You can also find this pattern and some fabrics while supplies last here at KISSed Quilts.



Marlene Oddie (marlene@kissedquilts.com) is an engineer by education, project manager by profession and now a quilter by passion in Grand Coulee, WA at her quilt shop, KISSed Quilts. She quilts for hire on a Gammill Optimum Plus but especially enjoys designing quilts and assisting in the creation of a meaningful treasure for the recipient. Fabric, patterns, kits and templates are available at <http://www.kissedquilts.com>. Follow Marlene's adventures via <http://www.facebook.com/kissedquilts> and <https://www.instagram.com/marlene.kissedquilts>



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Back-To-School Memories

by Judy Sharer

Whether still in school or a graduate from years ago, everyone has back-to-school memories!

In the small town where I grew up in Western Pennsylvania, my parents knew everyone, primarily because my father was the elementary principal and my mother a third-grade teacher. As you can imagine, I couldn't get away with anything.

Although summer seemed short to us, our parents were always ready for us to return to school. Back to school shopping started early. I had to try on all my old clothes to see if they still fit and then it was trudging store to store for outfits and shoes. In my town in the 60s until 7th grade all of the girls were required to wear dresses. I wished I were a boy so I could wear pants. In 8th grade the rules changed and girls were allowed to wear the new popular style pantsuits. In 9th grade, we were allowed to wear denim jeans. Finally, I could sit on the floor and feel comfortable! And those mandatory one-piece gym uniforms! Not very attractive.

Each new year brought the anticipation of a new teacher, new books, and a new classroom. I looked forward to catching up with old friends and making new friends, but the first day back always tied my stomach in knots.

In my small town, I walked about five blocks to elementary school. Then when I got old enough, nine or ten I believe, I was allowed to ride my bike. Actually, it was my sister's hand-me-down bike, but I was glad to have a set of wheels.

After school, my girlfriend and I would stop at a local gas station/store on our way home if we had a few pennies in our pocket. We would get penny candy to eat to tide us over until supper. And bottles of soda pop were taken from a large cooler with a sliding lid and a cap opener in the front.

For the most part, I liked school, especially the year I was old enough to get my driver's permit. I didn't have my own car, but lucky for me my siblings were out of the house by then and I could use the family car, with permission of course, when I really wanted to go somewhere.

High school brought school dances, evening football games and other sports, my first real boyfriend, and then on to college. While exciting, college had its own ups and downs. Finding and buying my textbooks was stressful the first few times. Finding the right building and classroom and being able to get to the next class clear across campus on time was nerve-wracking. Keeping my grades up so my parents would continue to pay my tuition always hung over my head. When my grades dropped one term, finding a job to help me pay my own tuition was an experience. And then there was juggling my time between campus life and studying while living at home.

Wow! Sometimes, I'm amazed I survived my school years, but when you're young you don't let anything stand in your way. Hopefully you're fondly thinking of some of the things you did in school right now. Maybe this walk down memory lane will prompt you to pick up the phone and call an old school friend to share a memory or just to say hello and reminisce.

© Judy Sharer is the author of a historical Civil War era romance series titled *A Plains Life*, published by The Wild Rose Press. Book One, *Settler's Life*, Book Two, *Second Chance Life*, Book Three, *Civil War Life* and Book Four, *Love Challenged Life* are available wherever on-line books and eBooks are sold. Look for her newest title *Secrets in Room Four* coming this winter. Visit Judy's website for more details. judysharer.com



Become Inspired

by Annice Bradley Rockwell

A Transformed Tapestry

The season of fall is a time of perpetual change. The height of the summer has now given rise to the abundance and magic of fall. All around us nature provides reminders that there is beauty in letting go. As the days become shorter, we are often drawn inward, with a deep appreciation for what surrounds us. As we see the trees in our landscape transform into tapestries of amber and fiery red, we cannot help but feel grateful for one of the nature's most spectacular soulful displays.

Bringing in the Harvest

In our own country yards, we find similar abundance and change. Our gardens and fields are filled with huge pumpkins, butternut squash, acorn squash and produce that can be harvested and preserved to be enjoyed during the colder days to come. Tall cornstalks can be picked and nestled around our colonial Boston-style lamp post or used to fill our large country wagons or kegs in our outdoor fall displays. Our homegrown pumpkins and gourds can be picked at their peak and brought indoors to enhance the beauty of an early hewn trencher or an antique splint harvest basket. Bringing the splendor of the season into our homes lends a natural beauty to our days and is a country joy that we often crave on these brisk days of fall. Even small country pleasures like having the golden glow of a Pumpkin Bread or Colonial Apple Butter candle on your harvest table on a rainy fall day is a delight for our senses. And taking an afternoon to turn a bushel of our very own Macintosh apples into homemade apple pies as a surprise dessert for a Sunday family meal is yet another gift of the season of fall.

Capturing the Magic of Fall

Spending time outdoors in the cool country air is another way to embrace this season of change. A family day of raking leaves or making a country scarecrow from hay, a Buffalo plaid flannel shirt, overalls and straw hat is the perfect way to share in having fun and making memories. On a clear night of a harvest moon, friends and family can gather to enjoy a beautiful bonfire as the happy conversation brings everyone together in celebration of fall.

This season, embrace the country magic that fall always provides. As nature transitions to a grand display of wonder, let it ignite awe and inspiration. And as you reflect on the gifts of the season, share that abundance with those you hold dear.

--Annice Bradley Rockwell is an educator and owner of Pomfret Antiques. She is currently working on her book, *New England Girl*. NewEnglandGirl2012@hotmail.com



Life on My Farm

by Donna Jo Copeland, farmeress

Thankful for Fall

*Beyond the purple hazy seas
Of summer's utmost mysteries
There lies a land long lost to me
The land of used to be...*

Written by James Whitcomb Riley over a century ago, the poem memorized in the 5th grade, comes alive for me every late summer.

Especially so now that I'm 75, sipping iced tea on hot afternoons the long-ago days bring smiles. Late summer, early fall for country kids were filled with simple pleasures, and chores of course.

No idleness as garden produce needed canned, hay baled, fences repaired, getting ready for the coming winter. And then there was school starting the day after Labor Day. Gosh the summers went by quickly.

City kids just don't understand the magic of quiet, crickets, lightning bugs, soft breezes. Sadly, with the isolation and technology of today, few people embrace simple farm life, live the magic.

The air and sky at summers end change. Cornflower blue carries white fluffy clouds on the horizon. A hint of damp leaves begins to waft on evening breezes. Even the sunshine is softer, more golden.

In this crazy unsure world, my wee farm is my refuge, my magic place. I can lose myself in caring, watching my animals. Always lots of fiber work needing done. The looms and spinning wheels isolate me from the chaos.

The sheep are newly sheared and now their fleeces need processed. Goats and bunnies will be sheared one more time. Fences need checked. House and barn need attention. And this year I have some late chicks...brooder house to be repaired and varmint proofed.

As I have Fall shows and the Wool Shed is open until Christmas, woolen goods need to be made for sale. Looms and spinning wheels will hum, dypots simmer. And I am so thankful the brutal heat of summer has eased. I love working in jeans and flannel shirts. It's my fashion statement.

As much as I love to spin and weave, rug hooking has claimed the top spot for now. Finding new ways to incorporate wool, different fabrics, textures in my designs. For me my hooking has very few rules, let's me experiment, combining techniques. My very soul is excited when I work with wools produced right here. The wool production team seems proud too.

Pride in things made from your own realm, well made, sustainably produced, honoring the planet, caring for Mother Nature. We all should find a path, a way to make, do, and be proud. Be kinder to ourselves, the planet, each other.

Remember the hippie motto: Peace, Love.

Maybe I'm regressing. Might even dig out my old bell bottom jeans, sandals (remember Dr Schools wood sandals, I still have mine), and tie dye shirt to wear. Who knows what I might find in the back of the closet or North room? Mysteries?? Memories?

Let's make this fall season one of love, peace, mystery and thankfulness. Be a little more tolerant, more caring. Find a creative outlet, maybe rug hooking. Wool has that awesome ability to soothe, calm, connect with other wool users. And then there are those wonderful sheep, their gentle eyes and that luscious fleece.

MOM'S APPLE DUMPLINGS

Recipe for pie crust, rolled into a rectangle, cut into 3" x 5" rectangles. Butter each piece.

Peel and core 2 or 3 apples, cut into 4 or 6 slices. Put a slice on each dough piece, liberally sprinkle cinnamon sugar. Roll up, place in greased 9" x 13" pan. When all dumplings are made, sprinkle brown sugar over them, add about 1 cup of water. Bake at 350 for about 45 minutes. Serve with homemade ice cream.



Donna Jo Copeland writes from her farm, Breezy Manor, Mooresville, Indiana where she tends her flock and creates art from the wool. Being the 14th generation of farm owner/operator. Donna Jo brings alive the struggles of farm life.



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Hagerstown, MD

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Piecing Life Together

by Barbara Polston

Traveling

Most of us, I believe, plan to travel, whether that's for business, family obligations or pleasure. I'm planning a trip to visit my oldest daughter and will be flying. In addition to all the things that need to be packed – clothing, toiletries and the like – whenever I travel, I spend quite a bit of time thinking about what I will be bringing along to fill spare moments.

There is always a book or two to read on the plane. On this trip, I'm bringing the latest selection of my book club. I expect I will be done with the reading and ready for our meeting, occurring the evening after I return home.



What seems to occupy most of my thoughts is what sewing or crafting project will come along. There are several things that must be considered. One of the first things is the size of the project. With airlines charging for additional bags or too much weight, this is important. Currently, I have some finishing handwork that needs to be done on two good-size quilt projects. Either would take up quite a bit of valuable suitcase space or require a second suitcase

and additional baggage charges. Shipping the projects ahead of time seems like an unnecessary expense and risks them getting lost in transit, going or coming back. Neither of those projects seem like good options for this trip but would be strong contenders if I were driving. If I had a quilting project that could be broken down into small units of handwork, such as an English Paper Piecing project, that would be a good choice. Unfortunately, I don't have such a project planned for the near future, so that won't work either.

As luck would have it, I am ready to start a new counted cross stitch project. I was gifted another embroidery project, Japanese sashiko, that is ready to go and I am anxious to try. Both projects fit nicely in my embroidery bag and won't take up very much space in my suitcase. These will be coming along with me, giving me plenty of things to work on while I'm away and relaxing with my daughter. She is thinking she will work on some embroidery projects while I'm there, a plan we are calling mother-daughter parallel crafting. She was gifted with the same Japanese sashiko kit and I'm wondering if we will truly be in parallel, working on the same project but bringing our individual interpretations to the work. I am looking forward to a bit of a surprise.

Safe travels! Happy stitching!

©Barbara Polston, July 2025. Barbara is the author of *Quilting with Doilies: Inspiration, Techniques, and Projects* (Schiffer Press, 2015) and a series of children's books inviting young children to share in *The Adventures of Puppy Brian* (www.puppybrian.com). Barbara lives in Tucson, Arizona where she has failed at retirement, but is getting more time for sewing in a variety of forms. Contact Barbara at barbarapolstonquilter@gmail.com.

I Love Fall Table Runner

by Deb Heatherly

Do you start counting the days midsummer until you can pull out your fall decorations? I certainly do! There's something comforting about the oranges, yellows, golds and reds of my favorite season. My front porch features mums, sunflowers, scarecrows, pumpkins and of course, an abundance of leaves. I love collecting garlands made of silk leaves and additional single leaves to mix in with all the décor. The entire look always makes me stand back and smile.

Once the outside is complete its time to do a little decorating inside. This year I designed a quick and easy table runner to add to my seasonal display and I'm happy to share that pattern with you.

For 4 blocks you will need:

- 1/3 yd. Light Background (or a variety of light backgrounds)
- 1 FQ each Red, Gold, Yellow, Orange

From each FQ of red, gold, yellow, orange, cut:

- (3) 3 1/2" squares, (1) 3" square, (2) 4" squares for HST, (1) 1" x 5 1/2"

Light background:

- Cut (1) 3 1/2" x WOF strip. Sub-cut (8) 3 1/2" squares
- Cut (1) 4" x WOF strip. Sub-cut (8) 4" squares for HST

Backing 1 yd.

For traditional binding

- Cut (3) 2 1/2" x WOF strips OR use a pillow turn method that requires no binding.

Directions:

- Draw a diagonal line on the back of the 4" light background squares.
- Pair right sides together with the red, gold, yellow, and orange 4" squares.
- Sew 1/4" from the line on both sides of the line. Cut on the line to yield (4) HST of each color. Press seams toward the color.
- Trim to 3 1/2".



For leaf stem:

- Cut (4) of the light background 3 1/2" squares diagonally 1x to yield (8) triangles.
- Center and sew on opposite sides of the 1" x 5 1/2" red, gold, yellow and orange strips. Press seams toward light background.



- Trim to 3 1/2" making sure the corners with red, gold, yellow and orange are centered.



- Make 4 blocks as shown pressing seams as indicated by the arrows. One of each color. Blocks should measure 9 1/2".



- Stagger the leaves and sew the blocks together as shown.



Make and use traditional binding OR pillow turn the runner. To pillow turn, place backing (right side down) on top of the runner, then place batting on top of the backings. Sew all the way around the runner leaving a 4" opening in the center of one of the blocks to turn.

Trim the backing and batting before turning through the opening and trim the corners to reduce bulk in the points.

Hand stitch the opening closed and press. Top stitch 1/4" from the edge all the way around if desired.

Deb Heatherly is a designer for Creative Grids® rulers and the author of eight popular pattern books. Creative Grids® fans are invited to join her Facebook group, "Grids Girls," for tips and inspiration, and two free mysteries each year. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/7704296498004571>. Shop Owners are invited to join her group just for you, "Grids Girls for Quilt Shop Owners Only" <https://www.facebook.com/groups/273593657256524>. Visit Deb's website at www.Debcatsnquilts.com





Exploring the World of International Quilt Festivals: A Global Journey of Inspiration Part 4 of 4

by Kim Caskey of Kim Caskey Tours

Pour l'Amour du Fil, Nantes, France, is a celebrated event that draws quilt lovers and textile artists from around the world. Held annually in a convention centre, this French quilt festival is renowned for its blend of high-quality, unique exhibitions, workshops and a vibrant marketplace. The event highlights a stunning array of quilts and textile art, with exhibitors offering everything from traditional quilts to contemporary designs that push the boundaries of creativity. The show's curated



exhibits are often country-based and feature the finest in quilting, with pieces often reflecting diverse international influences and showcasing the latest trends in textile art. Visitors can expect to see a beautiful variety of quilts, including hand-stitched, machine-embroidered and art quilts, all displayed in thoughtfully arranged galleries which inspire and captivate.

In addition to the exhibits, Pour l'Amour du Fil offers a bustling vendor area where quilters and textile enthusiasts can find unique fabrics, patterns, tools and notions, many of which are exclusive to the show. The market has a distinctly French flair, with French designers and artisans presenting their own collections of high-quality materials, including specialty threads, lace and fabric. The show also features workshops and lectures led by renowned textile artists, providing visitors with the opportunity to learn new techniques and gain insights into the world of quilting and embroidery. With its warm, inviting atmosphere and rich focus on textile arts, Pour l'Amour du Fil is a must-attend event for anyone passionate about quilting, fabric and the art of stitching.

The European Patchwork Meeting is a one-of-a-kind quilt festival held annually in the picturesque Alsace region of France, known for its stunning medieval villages and charming landscapes. This unique event takes place in various venues scattered across the villages of Alsace, transforming historic buildings, museums and local halls into vibrant galleries for textile art. The festival's setting is as much a part of the experience as the quilts themselves, with attendees wandering through cobblestone streets and exploring centuries-old structures, while discovering a dazzling array of quilts and textile artworks. The festival offers a free, and very well-organized, shuttle-bus system with a series of stops at each village, allowing one to easily visit all five villages and exhibits. Each venue offers a different atmosphere, creating a dynamic and immersive experience which combines the beauty of the region with the creativity of quilt artists from around the world.



The festival brings together quilters from across Europe and beyond, presenting an eclectic mix of traditional, contemporary and innovative quilts. Exhibits are often curated by theme or artist, and visitors are treated to a visual feast of color, texture and technique. In addition to the quilt displays, the European Patchwork Meeting features a range of workshops and demonstrations, offering quilters of all levels the chance to learn new skills and techniques from international experts. With its stunning setting, diverse quilt exhibitions and the opportunity to immerse oneself in the culture of the Alsace region, the European Patchwork Meeting is truly a one-of-a-kind event in the global quilting calendar.

Japanese Quilt Festivals: Japan has long been a major player in the quilt world, with a rich tradition of quilting and textile arts that continue to evolve in exciting ways. The once iconic Tokyo International Great Quilt Festival, which was held annually at the Tokyo Dome, was the largest of its kind in Asia and a must-visit event for quilters worldwide. Unfortunately, this festival was discontinued after the pandemic, however its legacy lives on in the vibrant quilt scene across Japan. In its place, several smaller but equally impressive quilt festivals emerged, each offering unique experiences and celebrating the artistry of quilting in their own distinctive ways.

Today, Japan's quilt festivals continue to attract quilt enthusiasts and artists from around the world with events held in major cities like Tokyo, Yokohama and Kyoto. The festivals feature an incredible array of quilts, from traditional Japanese patterns and techniques to contemporary and avant-garde designs. Exhibits often highlight quilts that blend cultural heritage with modern sensibilities, making for a visually striking experience. In addition to the quilt displays, workshops and lectures are a central feature of these festivals, allowing attendees to learn from Japanese quilting masters and discover new techniques, such as the country's famed Sashiko stitching. With a focus on craftsmanship, artistry and innovation, the new wave of quilt festivals in Japan continue to captivate and inspire quilters from all corners of the globe.



From the cozy charm of community shows to the spectacular displays at global events, quilt festivals celebrate the artistry and shared passion of quilters worldwide. Each event offers a unique perspective on this beloved art form, whether you are looking for inspiration, education or simply a deeper appreciation of the global quilting community, these quilt festivals are a must-visit for anyone interested in the global quilting community.

Kim Caskey, who is based in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, is a professional longarm quilter and owner of Kim Caskey Tours. Kim hosts specialized textile-based tours in numerous international destinations with unique and exclusive textile visits and activities creating memorable experiences for quilters, stitchers, their family and friends. Everyone is welcome on Kim's tours! www.kimcaskey.ca/tours, kim@kimcaskey.ca, 1-780-288-9008.



It's All Fun and Games Until the Bobbin Runs Out!

Happy Fall Y'all!

Recipe: Zucchini Sausage Casserole
submitted by Shirley Ross

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup mild bulk sausage
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 4-5 cups zucchini, diced & peeled
- 1/2 cup cracker crumbs
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded (plus more for topping)
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp oregano
- Dash of garlic salt
- Dash of pepper

Directions:

Brown the meat with the onion and drain. Add zucchini, cracker crumbs, egg, cheese and spices. Place in a 2 quart greased baking dish and bake at 350° for about 45 minutes or until zucchini is tender. Then top with cheese near the end.



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