

The Country Register of Arizona

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Consultant Sales/Office Assistant The Arizona Country Register is published by: **BarLo**

Media

The Deadline for the October-November Issue is Sept 1 for Ads & Articles.

Our feature articles will focus on Holiday & Seasonal Events, Boutiques and Shows

The Country Register is a United States and Canadian network of independently owned and published specialty newspapers for the consumer who enjoys outstanding shopping, events, day & overnight excursions and specialty classes.

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Building Harmony

The Playhouse

by Jeff Cappis Momentary ideas. My life is full of neglected projects and things that seemed like good ideas. You know people like me; our garages are usually a mess. On the other hand, my wife Cathy sees things through and keeps a very orderly life. (The way I am just bugs the hell out of her). So when we work on something together, she keeps me going and I give her the best job I can. It usually

works out very well.

Friends offered us a children's kitchen set. It had a wooden stove, fridge, sink and a cabinet. We decided our granddaughter would look cute playing with it, so we took them up on it.

We got the kitchen pieces home and discovered we didn't have room for this stuff in the house. We couldn't make her play with it in the garage. (Well, I thought we could, but Cathy is in charge of child welfare around here so I got overruled). Anyhow, we decided to build her a playhouse.

What could that cost? Maybe \$400?

Cathy thought a porch would be cute. I figured white vinyl siding to match our house would look right. If we might be out there after dark, then the house should have lights as well. How about an outlet so we could plug in a heater and drink hot chocolate out there with them in the winter. Winter? Then it should be insulated. It was nicer than our house.

It was supposed to be done in a weekend. Right. Before we knew it, a week had gone by. My fingers were covered in bandages and Cathy's shins were bruised. While doing the inside walls, we accidentally boarded ourselves in. I had to cut us a door before we ran out of air. Later, I fell off the roof while shingling it. Luckily my head got to the ground first and broke my fall. Cathy screwed herself to the house while putting up the shuttlers. No problem, splinters and all, we were getting into the project.

One day, the house began to sink on the west side. Three days later it began to sink on the east side. It's been pretty level ever since.

All in all, we spent two months and about \$1600 on this playhouse. O.K., so we did go a bit overboard, but that would all be worth it to see the look on our granddaughter's face. Right?

Finally the big day came. We walked her up to it, then uncovered her eyes. Ta-da! She loved it! She walked around it, then told us we were going inside. When it was my turn, she stopped me at the door. "You can't come in, Grandpa.

'Why not?" I asked.

"Cause you don't take your shoes off." "But, I built this place!"

"You can't come in."

You never argue with the lady of the house (big one or little one) so I stood outside and watched them have a tea party through my custom plexiglass windows. It began to rain

Our granddaughter loves that playhouse. She doesn't come over too often so the playhouse mostly sits idle. I go in there sometimes when no one is looking and I don't take my shoes off. Cathy goes in there to dust it. I mow the grass around it and every year we paint and keep the maintenance up on it. All this because we thought our granddaughter would look cute playing with her kitchen suite-a momentary idea.

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Time to Clear Out Collections Which Add to All That Clutter

by Julie Pirtle

Collections, collections and more collections! We all have them. Lots of them! Antiques, craft supplies, vintage toys - the list goes on. Usually when we declare that its's time to clear out, we think of these kinds of collections...the items that draw us in and compel us to collect. Perhaps these are not the worst space taking items in our

I have spent the last month preparing for an out-of-state move. You would think that being an Organizer, I would not have much to prepare for. But you would be wrong! When I started digging deep, I

These items are sneaky when they multiply. They are easy to ignore and end up taking up space that they don't deserve. I've been taking notes on these culprits of clutter and decided to share with you what I found lurking in the dark depths of my home.

Socks. Really? Just how many pairs of socks does one person need? More so, why do we keep the ones that are missing their better half? Perhaps I am an optimist to do so, but from looking at my drawer, the better half never made it back.

It's time for a come to the sock moment. Get rid of stray socks, socks that don't fit well and socks with holes. You know what they say - you never know when you might get in an accident and find yourself in the hospital with holey socks!

(Side note here. I remember adults saying this to me and even at a young age, it perplexed me. Wouldn't having holey undergarments of any kind pale in comparison to the fact that you were just IN AN ACCIDENT? Do I really care at this point? It makes continued on page 6...



Arizona

Special Events 5

Summer & The Specter of Holiday "Bots"

by Barbara Kalkis

Aah... summer! The glorious days we spend frolicking in July. The languid, lazy August nights that refresh us like no other time of year: Picnics, BBQs, family vacations, reunions, days at the beach, camping under the stars. It's in these deliciously long hot days that a crafter's mind turns to Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Yes, the kids need clothes and shoes for school, but let's keep our priorities straight. Summer is the perfect moment to think about new designs for quilts, wall hangings, decorations, greeting cards, handmade gifts in handmade packaging. Holiday crafts and tasks require focus, concentration, preparation, planning. There's even a competitive element: spotting trends, comparing notes with friends, grabbing the perfect fabric—or paper—and patterns in stores, as well as getting everything done on time. Compared to this challenge, the kids can dress themselves. (*Just kidding . . sort of.*)

The festive days from October through December used to be known by their colors: orange, gold and black for Halloween; burnished browns, haystack hues, and pumpkinpie colors for Thanksgiving; and red and green, silver, white, and gold for Christmas. No longer. New colors have invaded traditional color palettes. White and green pumpkins decorate front porches; angels herald Christmas in bubble-gum pink; and beady-eyed elves sport aqua uniforms.

The bottom line? Days in July and August may seem luscious and long, but they're not. June had the longest day and it's gone. Time's a wastin' and so's daylight. It's enough to boost blood pressure readings and require mantras and yoga breathing.

Welcome the New World of "Bots." But wait! Not to worry! New technology has arrived to simplify your life. Crafting will soon become easy and carefree, thanks to a team of high-technology geniuses. Men. (Did you need me to tell you that?)

A computer software application ("app") in development aims to become your personal robot—or "bot" for short. The bot can perform many tasks: write, research, analyze, synthesize, personalize information, and much more. (*Sort of like the butler I've always wanted, but without the British accent.*)

Bots can search and find massive quantities of information—called "data"—stored in computer databases around the world, analyze it, and deliver it on your computer screen.

You're a crafter, an artist—what's in it for you? More than you think. Let's say you want a quilt with a rose pattern. Type the words, "Show quilts with rose patterns." The bot will scan databases of designs, select ones with roses and display them on screen. You can select one design or combine designs to create a new look. You can change roses to sunflowers or daisies, add birds or trees, and elect your own color palette or quilt size. You can tell the bot to perform changes until your ideas come to 'life' on your computer screen.

Technology fans believe bots simplify design processes, save time and research, offer ideas we wouldn't have had, and even inspire creativity.



What Bots Don't Do. Bots are a type of technology known as "artificial intelligence." It's important to remember that term because bots are not intelligent. Their intelligence is man-made; artificial. They gather data from various sources and spew out what has already been thought of and shared in some form with the world. We humans just pick and choose what we want. Bots cannot discern, so they may provide information that is incorrect, incomplete, biased, or misleading.

Creativity is a human talent. True art communicates emotion. Thinking and brainstorming are uniquely human gifts. Crafting in all its forms demonstrates intelligence that cannot be machine made. Bot or butler? I'll take the butler.

©BarbaraKalkis. Barbara follows her heart writing, teaching, and consulting with high-tech clients. She's author of Little Ditties for Every Day; A Collection of Thoughts in Rhyme and Rhythm. Contact her at BarbaraKalkis01@gmail.com.

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Giveaway Winners from June-July

We have two giveaway winners from our last issue.

Jo R Nece from Glendale will receive a \$25 Gift Certificate to be spent at her favorite Country Register advertiser, **Memory Lane Trinkets & Treasures** also in Glendale. Jo R told us this is her favorite shop because "It's a nice place to get a variety of one of a kind type of items to give as gifts!"

Anna Lylyk of Phoenix will receive Barbara Polston's book *Puppy Brian and the Grey Cat*. Anna picks up her copy of The Country Register at **35th Ave Sew and Vac** in Phoenix.

We love to hear from our readers about how they enjoy *The Country Register* and use it to discover great finds and fun events. In this issue, there is another \$25 Gift Certificate so be sure to enter and tell us where you pick up the newspaper.

Take a copy with you as you travel around Arizona visiting your favorite shops and finding new shops and events to explore!

Time to Clear Out, continued from page 4...

me wonder where these old sayings came from!)

Boxes. In the days of overnight deliveries, they can pile up quickly. Cute boxes, handy shaped boxes, boxes for emergency purposes...STOP THE MADNESS! Instead of tossing them in the garage, get into the habit of breaking them down and take them out to the recycle bin. Don't mourn the loss of these cardboard monsters. There will most assuredly be more in your future!

OK. This next one is going to hit a nerve for many women out there. Shampoo and Conditioners. Oh, clutter angels help me! It seems like I am always in search of the perfect shampoo. The partially-used bottles end up in cabinets where they have no right to be. I'm sure I put them there lamenting about the money I spent and assuring myself that I might use them someday. If they didn't work when I tried them, they aren't going to work later! Share the wealth with a friend or let them go.

Cosmetics fall under this same category. How many shades of taupe eye shadow are necessary? Aren't three open tubes of mascara two too many? Cosmetics are a feel-good purchase for me so I don't get rid of the items that didn't work as quickly as I should. It's best to pare it down and keep track of the expiration dates on each item. This is especially true for eye products as they can harbor bacteria that your baby blues do not need to be subjected to.

Pantries are a prime spot for an over abundance of items that should not be there! Check expiration dates on a regular basis. Donate foods that you over stocked or used but didn't like. Look online and see if your neighborhood has a social media page. Take a picture of your food and offer it for pick up. I was surprised at the response I got when I did this. Times are tough right now for many people and free groceries can be a real boost.

Hear me out on this one, please. Stop with the bag collections! Personally, I am not guilty of this clutter crime. I just know that most every closet or pantry I open to organize will have a plethora of bags. It's even more interesting to me how attached people are to this collection. It's of epidemic proportions! Just say no and let them go.

I think the largest category of items I had to purge were cleaning products! It was quite surprising how many had accumulated that I was not using. Again, think of posting on your local social media page. Your neighbors will thank you and so will your cupboards!

Keeping an organized home does not have to depend upon exhausting weekend projects. Take a look around and see what small spaces you can tackle. Do one at a time instead of all at once. Try to be of the mindset to release as much as you add to your home. Developing daily habits will keep the clutter at bay and your sanity intact!

Now, march to your sock drawer and make it happen. It's calling you. Do you hear it? C'mon, you've got this. I know you do!

Julie Pirtle is a Professional Organizer and owner/operator of Clutter Happens.. She also works with clients nationally through Video Consultations. The Clutter Challenged can reach her at clutterhappens@gmail.com, on Facebook:/clutterhappens or her website www.clutterhappens.com.



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Making Memories with a Simplici-TEA

by Lydia E. Harris Sometimes the simplest get-togethers create the sweetest memories, especially if you share a cup of tea.

We hadn't seen our friends Ron and Tami for many years. Now they were coming to Seattle to visit relatives, hear a world-renowned singer, and visit Milt and me. It would be a treat to connect with them again. Tami and I both love all things tea, so I asked, "Would you like to join us for tea and scones?"

"I'm not eating flour or sugar," Tami replied. "But a cup of tea would be perfect."

With lots of tea choices and numerous individual teapots, we could sample several blends. Since I was baking custard for my grandkids the day before our guests were coming, I also made custard without sugar for them—just milk, eggs, salt, vanilla, and a dusting of nutmeg on top. Quick and easy.

Then, to my delight, the mailman delivered a large tray of dried fruit and nuts from my pen pal. The label didn't include processed sugar, so I could share my gift with Ron and Tami.

As I prepared for our teatime, the sun shone and a lilac-scented breeze blew-perfect for afternoon tea on our upper-level deck. The shade of the canopy and the surrounding trees gave our deck the feel of a treehouse. For a friendly welcome, I set the table with

linens, silver tableware, fresh lilacs, and floral china plates, cups, and teapots.

We began our teatime by smelling different teas and selecting flavors to try. Paris tea and green Earl Grey tea with lavender won the first round. Ron and Tami enjoyed sipping new flavors and thought the tea assortment was the entire menu. But surprise! I brought out a large platter with dried fruit and nuts. I also served the custard in colorful egg-shaped ramekins and offered fresh blueberries to sweeten the pudding. They savored it all. One of the best parts of sipping tea

with friends is catching up on each other's lives-taking time to listen, care, share our hearts, and pray. In a sense, time seems to stand still as you linger over tea. But at the same time, it seems short and flies by. All too soon our simplici-TEA was over, and it was time for photos, hugs, and fond farewells.

Later, to my delight, Tami emailed, "Time together with you and Milt over tea was the highlight of our trip.

"How could that be?" I replied.

"You made everything so special for us, and the day was absolutely perfect," she answered.

My surprised response was, "But you spent time with relatives and heard Andrea Bocelli. Right?"

Tami clarified, "Yes, everything was amazing. But your tea was a pleasant surprise. Ron and I thoroughly enjoyed it."

Of course, we enjoyed the sweet teatime with them as well. From their appreciative response, here are my tips: 1, 2, 3 for a simplici-TEA.

1. Set a pretty table. 2. Offer a fragrant tea assortment.

- 3. Surprise guests with easy-to-prepare nibbles.
- Sometimes the simplest teatimes create the sweetest memories.

Until our next teatime-adios, aufwiedersehen, goodbye, and adieu. May God bless you!

Lydia E. Harris is a tea enthusiast, grandmother of five (Grandma Tea), and author of In the Kitchen with Grandma: Stirring Up Tasty Memories Together and Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting. Watch for her new devotional book for grandparents scheduled to release in September for Grandparents Day. Her books are available through bookstores and online.



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From Lydia's Recipe File: Grandma's Yum-Delicious Baked Custard From In the Kitchen with Grandma, page 160. Healthy and easy to make. A favorite of Grandma Tea's grandchildren.

Gather:

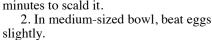
- 2 cups milk, scalded
- 2 large eggs
- 1/3 cup sugar (omit for sugar-free)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon salt nutmeg to sprinkle on top
- Cook:
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 1. Microwave milk on high about 3

minutes to scald it.

3. Mix in sugar, salt, and vanilla.

- Then stir in milk.
 - 4. Pour into a 1 1/2-quart baking dish or 5 or 6 custard cups.
 - 5. Set custard dish(es) in a pan and fill pan with 1 inch of water. 6. Lightly sprinkle nutmeg on top of custard.
- 7. Bake for 45 minutes if made in a baking dish, until a table knife inserted 1 inch from the edge comes out clean. If made in custard cups, test for doneness after 35 minutes.
 - 8. Serve warm or chilled. Refrigerate leftovers. Makes 6 servings







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The Country Register has a gift for one of our lucky readers! We are giving away one \$25 gift certificate to be spent at a local advertising shop. Use it to go shopping at your favorite Country Register advertiser.

The drawing will be held on Sept 1st and the winner will be announced in our Oct-Nov issue. The gift certificate will be mailed to the winner.

Entry Deadline is Sept 1, 2023

(Names are not sold, given away or used for any other purpose.) Drawing Entry Form

Name _

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To enter, complete this form and mail to: The Country Register, 515 E. Carefree Hwy, #1128, Phoenix, AZ 85085 (Photocopy of form is fine. Be sure to answer all questions.)

Or email the information to: arizona@barlomedia.com and put "Gift Certificate" in the subject line. *****

Please tell us about a local Arizona Vintage, Antique, Craft or Holiday Event that you would like to see advertising in The Country Register:

We welcome your comments and/or suggestions about The Country Register. Include a note with your drawing entry, send us an email or give us a call at 1-888-942-8950. We enjoy hearing from our readers!

The Allure of Lithophane

by Jay Mark Lithophane? Never heard of it? You're not alone. Lots of folks are in the dark about this intriguing Victorian decorative art. Hopefully, after discovering this fascinating piece of the past, you'll be sufficiently intrigued to begin seeking them out.

Lithophanes are hidden treasures, much like Stanhopes which this column has previously introduced. You just have to know what to look for.

Before we begin, let's define the odd word lithophane. It is a concocted term that comes from combining the Greek lithos (stone) and phainein (to cause to appear). Simply put, lithophane refers to a thin, translucent porcelain plaque surface that is carved or molded in varying thicknesses in such a way that, when illuminated from behind, magically reveals a remarkably detailed three-



The magic of the lithophane is its ability to change its appearance when illuminated from behind. On the left of this modern lithophane is the image as it appears in reflected light. On the right is how it comes into view as a three-dimensional portrait when made translucent. Photo illustration: Jay Mark

who patented his novel idea in

1827. It didn't take long for his

ingenious invention to catch on.

Large German manufacturers like Meissen, Royal Factory

at Berlin, and KPM, Minton, Copeland, Wedgewood, and Worchester in Britain, produced

hundreds of thousands between

1840 and 1870 to satisfy the strong consumer demand.

While most lithophanes

dimensional image. Although a similar technique was introduced in 15th century China, the modern origin of the lithophane is attributed to a French diplomat, Baron Paul de Bourgoing,



reported that 111 lithophane copies were made. Wikipedia

are monochromatic, a smaller number were enhanced with With the advent of photography, photographs could be water colors, hand decorated, turned into lithophanes like this 1855 image of Samuel Colt, which enriched and gave greater inventor of the Colt revolver he is shown displaying. It is depth to the three-dimensional

image. At its peak of popularity, about 25 factories across Europe, including Belleek, Limoges, and Phoenix Pottery in the U.S. were all aggressively competing for a piece of the market. That resulted in imaginative ways to display lithophanes. They are most frequently found in a variety of lamps and lighting fixtures, art glass framed panels, candle screens, and specialty items like tea and food warmers-anywhere light can be transmitted from behind.

With the advent of photography in the 1840s, photographs, along with classical paintings, became frequent subjects for lithophane panels. Religious images were a popular subject. Even Leonardo da Vinci's iconic Last Supper was carved into lithophane panels. Although many lithophanes were frequently identified with a manufacturer's

mark, most remained almost entirely artist-unsigned. So, to this day, we have no idea who skillfully executed these brilliant masterpieces.

By the end of the 19th century, the once feverish demand for lithophanes began to wane. But interest would revive after WWII.

While many lithophanes are found as panels that, at their simplest, can be hung in a sunlit window, inserted into frames, or are parts of lamps and other decorative arts objects, some later appeared in unexpected places.

ACR China, a Japanese porcelain manufacturer between 1945-1952, introduced an imaginative, a new location for them with alluring images of Geisha's in Sake sets, and on the



Lithphanes can appear in the most unusual places. After lithophanes created by placing WWII, Japanese porcelain companies like ACR China began placing lithophanes in sake and tea cups (shown above) and beer steins. Wikipedia

bottom of tea cups and saucers. They were even in the base of beer steins. These designs quickly became best sellers.

Acknowledging the significance of lithophanes, a number of museums around the world have extensive collections. With more than 2,300 examples, the Blair Museum in Elmore, Ohio, claims to have the largest collection in the world-an assertion I won't dispute.

While the early popularity of lithophanes eventually waned, surprisingly, this distinctive art form never entirely disappeared. A search of Etsy and other arts' focused websites reveals numerous modern examples. Even Star Wars and Lord of the Rings have continued on page 10...

Button Box of Memories

by Patty Legg Duncan In March 2022, my older sister and best friend, Gilda, lost her long battle with diabetes and kidney disease. As I was sorting some of her things in her home in Iowa, I came across a pink travel case that held such sweet memories in it.

In 2003, I had sent a call out to all my friends, family and co-workers asking everyone to send Gilda a birthday card and include some buttons in it. In this pink box were all the cards she had received with the buttons still in each envelope. I was touched that she had kept these since her birthday nineteen years ago.

As I started looking through the cards, I realized how many of my friends and family had sent her a card with buttons. It was such a flood of wonderful memories reading all the cards and sweet messages to her. What was even more fun was looking at the buttons and who sent what types of buttons. She received a total of sixty-five cards that year for her 56th birthday.

Why buttons? When we were little my mom had a "Button Box." It was a beautiful old wooden box full of all kinds of buttons. Mom would let us kids play with the buttons but only while sitting at the kitchen table. My

hope was to create a special memory for Gilda that she would start her own button box collection. Little did I know that she would become an "official button collector."

Gilda joined many online button-collector groups and became obsessed with bidding and buying buttons on eBay and other online button-selling groups. Her collection quickly grew. She put most of her buttons in a large unique jar that sat on the shelf with her other obsession—an exceptional collection of books.

One of the themes that Gilda collected was "Ladybug" buttons. About the time she started collecting buttons, an unexplained phenomenon happened. Each morning, for ten days, ladybugs would appear in their sunroom inside the house. Gilda probably researched ladybugs, became fascinated with them and decided to begin collecting ladybug buttons. Most collections probably have their origins in special memories.

As I was getting things ready to move her husband Ron to Maryland to live with their son, I found a small suitcase-type box and decided to make a memory box for him to take with him. One afternoon, I sat with him as he picked out some of his favorites and filled his box. To our surprise, Gilda had even saved the buttons off Ron's Army uniform and his name tag that now proudly sits on top of the buttons.

Of course, I wanted to bring some of Gilda's buttons home with me even though I wasn't sure what I would do with them. When I returned home to Arizona, I found a pretty bouquet of flowers in a cute little glass vase that had been left sitting on my doorstep by a friend. This adorable vase is now my "button memory jar." It sits among all my house plants as a tribute to my sister, Gilda Legg Weisskopf. Not only did we share a love for family history and documenting the stories of our lives, but we also shared our love of houseplants and our gardens as well.

Patty Duncan enjoys family history and genealogy as a hobby, small town history and photography. She is also an avid scrapbooker and digital storybook maker. She lives in Glendale, AZ, where she spends a lot of time spoiling her grandchildren. Patty works in the sales department of The Country Registers of Arizona, California, Carolinas, Nebraska, Oregon and Washington.

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Patterns of the Past Antique Mall, 300 W Apache Trail Ste 101, Apache Junction • 480-671-3566 been immortalized in lithophanes. 3-D printers make it very easy to create lithophanes. That means it is very important to be assured that what you are purchasing is a genuine antique and not a modern version.

If you are ever unsure, always demand a written guarantee of authenticity and assurance of ability to return.

Because lithophanes are very thin, they are subject to breakage or damage making historic examples somewhat scarce. With more than 500 recently offered for sale on eBay, values remain quite reasonable, ranging between \$20 and \$200, depending on artistic value of the lithophane and how it is displayed. Rare, early lithophanes can reach \$1500.

A GOOD BOOK: Lithophane is an area of collecting for which there has been little written. But you can find more information about this obscure subject in Lithophanes, a delightfully well-illustrated, informative book by ceramic art historian, Margaret Carney, published in 2008 by Schiffer Books.

Virtually an antique himself, Jay Mark is celebrating his 50th year in the antiques' business. Along with his wife, he owns Those Were The Days!, an online specialty bookstore. He also teaches, lectures and frequently writes about antiques and history. Reach him at jaymark@twtdbooks.com. © 2023



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Anniversary Celebration in August At Main Street Antique Mall in Mesa

by Barb Stillman, Publisher Main Street Antique Mall, which has been located in Mesa for the past thirteen years, has some special news. There will be a month-long celebration in August in recognition of the first anniversary of Barry and Julie Roepke becoming the new owners of the Antique Mall in August 2022. Barry and Julie had been dealers at the Mall for several years.

The August celebration will include weekly events, including treasure hunts, gift basket drawings, games, snacks, raffles and lots of giveaways. You'll want to be sure to visit often to get in on all the fun!

Main Street Antique Mall has about 200 Dealers in 28,000 square feet of space all under comfortable air conditioning. The Dealers specialize in True Antiques, Collectibles, Glassware, Furniture, Shabby Chic, Farmhouse, Kitchen Collectibles, Mid-Century Modern, Retro, Jewelry, Native American and Western décor, Automotive Memorabilia, and Vintage Tools—just to name a few, and there's so much more!

name a few, and there's so much more! The selection of merchandise, quality, and pricing make this Mall a fun destination worth visiting.





Storewide sales are held year-round and the next sale is a coupon sale on August 17 through the 20. Customers receive coupons via email so be sure to get on the email list the next time you visit. The next 4-day Storewide Sale, which are held every other month will be on September 14, 15, 16 and 17. Layaway is offered on items priced at \$100 or more with 1/3 down for 30 days. Outdoor Flea Markets are hosted on the 3rd Saturday each month starting in October and run through April. When you're in the Mall, pick up a schedule of events, so you don't miss out on the fun.

Julie explained, "This first year, we have focused on updating things around the Mall. Watching our Dealer's successes in all that they do makes it well worth the hard work, and we plan to continue the improvements. We love the daily compliments we get from customers, especially when they comment on the warmth they feel when they enter the Mall."

The Roepkes enjoyed the antique industry as

shoppers for many years, finally deciding to "dive in" as Dealers as a hobby without realizing it would become such a wonderful part of their lives. Using what they've learned from other dealers and being a part of something they all love, the couple began to plan having their own shop someday.

"We didn't expect it to be **Main Street Antique Mall**, but God had bigger plans for us and here we are," Julie said. "Our dealers, staff and customers are such a blessing, and brings smiles to our faces every day!"

Barry and Julie plan to add additional activities at the Mall to create a strong community connection in the Mesa area and bring people out to enjoy being part of the fun.

Located at 7260 E. Main Street, east of Power Road, in Mesa, **Main Street Antique Mall** is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and until 7 p.m. on Thursdays. The store never closes early so you can always count on them to be there as you plan your visit. They are closed on Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Merchandise is advertised on Offer up, Letgo, Instagram, Facebook and Craigslist. You can also email mainstreetantiquemall@gmail.com or call 480-924-1122. Stop by soon and tell them you read about them in *The Country Register*!

Chili Corn Crunch Salad

Courtesy Cooksrecipes.com Surprisingly good and easy, the chili cheese corn chips provide all the seasoning needed. This is a great salad year-round, but exceptionally good when corn on the cob is in season and the fresh kernels are used instead of the frozen. 3 (10-ounce) packages frozen white or yellow corn niblets*

1/2 cup diced red onion** 1/2 cup diced green bell pepper

1/2 cup diced red or orange bell pepper 2/3 cup mayonnaise

1 (9.7-ounce) bag chili cheese flavored corn chips, coarsely crushed

Cooking Directions:

Place frozen corn in a colander and run cold water over to thaw. Set aside to drain well.

Meanwhile prepare onion and peppers.

In a large bowl, stir together the drained corn, onion, peppers with the mayonnaise. (At this point chill salad until ready to serve or proceed with the next step.)

Add the crushed corn chips to corn salad mixture and gently stir to combine. Serve immediately. Makes 16 servings.

* Or, for best taste and texture, use 6 to 8 ears fresh corn on the cob when in season. Use the kernels raw, do not cook. To remove kernels from the cob stand it on end in the center of a large bowl; hold the cob firmly on the top end and carefully slice downwards with a sharp knife to remove the kernels off the cob. If you've never done this, you'll be surprised at how easy this is to do.

** One of my favorite tips for raw onions. First soak the chopped onion in ice-cold water for about 15 minutes and then drain well

prior to adding to the salad. The process removes that particularly undesirable taste in raw onion.





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Collector's Corner To Auction or Not To Auction

by Jim Olson

At Western Trading Post we believe, "If you want to find out the true value of something in today's market, put it in a well-advertised, well-attended auction and you'll discover it." Auctions provide the quickest way to gauge current market conditions. However, auctions may not be suitable for everyone. Are they the right choice for you?

Auctions have been used for centuries as one of the oldest forms of selling property. They offer a fast-paced and exciting environment. Moreover, auctions provide transparency, allowing participants to understand the current market dynamics. Attending an auction with a good number of attendees is not only a great opportunity to socialize and network but it also provides entertainment value at no cost. Nonetheless, the question remains: "Are auctions suitable for me?"

Let's briefly examine the seller's perspective. Sellers who choose to sell at auction benefit in several ways. They know when their property will sell and can anticipate when the proceeds will be paid. Auctions are one of the fastest ways to move products or property. Additionally, sellers have the advantage of exposing their items to a large number of prospective buyers, with the auctioneer handling the marketing and other details. Sellers can also find comfort in knowing that auctions create a competitive marketplace, attracting multiple prospective buyers who compete to establish a fair market price.

For buyers, there are several advantages to consider. Auctions provide an opportunity to purchase items at a fair market value based on actual selling prices, rather than asking *continued on page 14...*

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Card Tricks Chapter of the Arizona Quilters Guild

For the Love of Quilts - 2023 Annual Quilt Show August 10 & 11, 2023, Thurs 9am-5pm - Fri 9am-3pm St. Mary of the Angels Parish Family Center 1915 S. Penrod Lane, Pinetop, AZ Admission: \$5 For more info visit: https://cardtrickschapter.com

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To Auction, continued from page 12...

prices. Buyers often have multiple choices available in one location, simplifying the purchasing process. Furthermore, buyers can be confident that sellers in auctions are motivated to sell, saving valuable time by avoiding sellers who are merely fishing for a specific price. In the case of online auctions, bidders can conveniently participate from anywhere and remain anonymous if desired.

According to a study conducted by the National Auctioneers Association, over half of the total U.S. population has attended a live auction, with many considering them an exciting way to secure deals. The study also revealed that most people are willing to travel an average distance of 1.3 hours to attend an auction. Since auctions are open marketplaces with willing participants, they treat all parties involved in a fair and equitable manner.

However, it's important to note that auctions may not be suitable for everyone. Some buyers find it challenging to control themselves at auctions, experiencing "auction fever" when bidding on desired items. These individuals often bid excessively in their determination to win and later regret paying too much. For people with this tendency, an online or absentee approach may be more suitable. By determining a predetermined price limit for a particular item and leaving a "max bid" online or with the auctioneer, buyers can avoid getting caught up in the excitement of the moment and exceeding their budget.

Some sellers may worry that their property won't fetch a satisfactory price at auction. However, it is essential to recognize that, in most cases, sellers can realistically only expect to receive a wholesale price for their items, anyway. For example, if you approach a dealer to buy your item, they will likely offer a wholesale price to account for their overhead expenses and desired return on investment. While consigning items to a gallery or consignment shop may yield a full retail price, this process often takes much time, and the seller generally pays a commission of 40% to 60% for the service. Meanwhile, at auction, you may not always receive the full retail price, but most personal property auctions charge commissions ranging from 15% to 30% (less for higher-value items), resulting in a net profit at the end of the day similar to other selling methods.

It is always advisable to work with an auction company that has a solid reputation and earns your trust, as is the case with any business. Although most auctions operate fairly, there are dishonest individuals in every industry. Even generic online platforms, such as eBay, can be manipulated by unscrupulous sellers. Unfortunately, cheaters will always find ways to cheat, so it's best to just avoid them if possible. While the majority of auctions are reputable, it is crucial to conduct thorough research to ensure you engage with a trustworthy company.

We leave you with a few peculiar occurrences witnessed at auctions. For instance, spouses bidding against each other for the same item while not sitting together. Occasionally, individuals attempting to drive up the bid for nefarious reasons and accidentally end up winning an expensive item they did not really want (karma at work). Certain bidders adopt quirky habits to playfully challenge the auctioneer, such as trying to wait until the last second to raise their hand and place a bid. Others do so by subtly making minimal movements, like raising a finger or eyebrow to bid. Some bidders engage in games with fellow participants, like bidding on the same item as another bidder just because that person is bidding.

While there are numerous amusing anecdotes about the unexpected events at auctions, it's best for you to attend one and experience it firsthand. It's an experience you will not forget.

Jim Olson is a published author, historian and co-owner of Western Trading Post, a historic Trading Post in Casa Grande, AZ, which traces its roots back to 1877! Learn more at WesternTradingPost.com. Jim Olson © 2017 (revised 2023)

Youth Quilters Get Stitchin' New Awards Coming in 2024!

The Night Owls, a chapter of the Arizona Quilters Guild (AQG), is sponsoring four Youth Quilt awards to be awarded at the 2024 AQG Quilt Show "Hip to Be Square" from March 21 to 23, 2024.

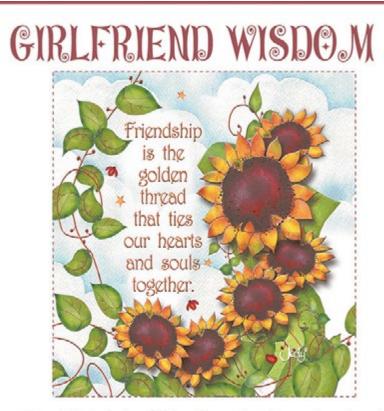
The new award category will honor a long-time member, Barb Spitalny, and the Youth Awards include AQG President's Choice, AQG Quilt Show Chair's Choice, and two NACQJ Judge's Youth Choice awards.

Now is the time to enlist young quilters to get them started on quilts. The youth category has no entry fee. Any quilt submitted by an entrant under the age of 18 years can be in this category. There are no quilt technique restrictions and the entry may be Solo, Duet or Group. AQG Youth Membership is available for \$10 although it is not required to enter a quilt. Quilts may be entered starting on October 1, 2023, through January 7, 2024, by going to the AQG website—AQG - Quilt Entry Form (arizonaquiltersguild. org).

Barb Spitalny was a long-time teacher at Lookout Mountain Elementary School in Phoenix. She had the most amazingly positive love for teaching kindergarten children and quilting. Her career spanned more than 25 years of educating children at Lookout Mountain. Barb loved making and creating quilts, stitching those tiny pieces, and then finishing them on her Longarm. She also happily took others tops and finished them for charity. Barb was an active member of The Night Owls Quilt Guild and held many leadership positions within the Chapter until her death in 2022. In 2016, she was honored as Arizona Quilt Guild member of the year.

The Night Owls, a chapter of Arizona Quilter Guild meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except July) at St Paul's Catholic Church, 330 W. Coral Gables Drive, Phoenix (near 7th Avenue and Greenway Road). Meetings start at 6:30 p.m., and many members come at 6:00 p.m. to enjoy snacks and conversation. Anyone interested in learning more about the group can attend two meetings without the obligation of joining. To find a chapter near you go to the AQG Website-arizonaquiltersguild.org/Chapters/List.





Friendship truly is a Golden Thread that ties our hearts and souls together. If you and your friend have trust, equality, compassion, honesty, and independence, you already have the foundation of a strong and healthy friendship. It often takes time and effort to foster deep, and meaningful friendships. Time is a key element here - a quick check in - a text message, "Thinking of you today - have a great one!" It all adds up in deepening a heart-felt friendship.

GIRLFRIEND WISDOM:

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Joy & Blessings, Ody

Girlfriend Wisdom is written by Jody Houghton®. For color files of this writing contact Jody at: jodyhoughton@msn.com or www.JodyHoughtonDesigns.etsy.com

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The Continuity of Grace

by Kerri Habben Bosman

On this overcast day, I am sitting contemplating Grace. The framed photograph of an old man praying hangs above my roll-top desk in our living room.

The old man prayed from their dining room while my husband Wayne and his siblings were growing up. He prayed after everyone left home and had families of their own. Perhaps he prayed harder during sad times and grace was needed most. Maybe he prayed more as grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and in recent years, great-great grandchildren came along. He prayed through all the sunshine and through every storm.

He is praying right now as I study him. As he always will. For grace, not just *Grace*, continues on.

The original photograph, Grace, taken around 1918 by Eric Enstrom, was originally black and white. It depicts a peddler named Charles Wilden, who lived in a sod house in Bovey, Minnesota. On the table in front of him is a loaf of bread and a knife to cut it, a bowl of gruel, and a dictionary. (It has been interpreted as a Bible, but the original prop was a dictionary.) On top of the book are the old man's glasses, lens side down as if he tossed them there in exhaustion or frustration. In 2002, the colorized version of the photograph became the official state photo of Minnesota.

Our rendition of the old man praying lived for generations on the dining room wall in a home in Wisconsin. The piece was an anniversary present to Wayne's parents from his Aunt Tootie and Uncle Jack when Wayne and his brothers and sister were young children. My mother-in-law is now 102 years old and for some years has been asking everyone in the family what they would like from her home someday. Some items have already been moved, and others have designations on the back. Wayne asked for the picture of the old man and Mom first offered it to us over two years ago. We didn't take it then because there would be a blank space on her wall. On a more recent visit, he had been taken down and replaced by a framed cross-stitch piece. Thus, the praying man journeyed south with us to North Carolina.

One definition of grace is "unmerited divine help or strength." It is there before we are even aware of it. It is there when we can't feel it and it leads us back to ourselves if we've forgotten the way. It reminds us to set down the luggage of life when we are carrying too much. It is there through uncertainty and hardship. And grace is with us always, as with the old man prays on.

Each person inclined to prayer has his or her own method. For me, prayer is simply about breathing out and breathing in, all the while being grateful for being alive. To place everything on the table that you've been carrying and set aside the weight of the world. If I look at the old man's tossed eye glasses first, I sense his release of expectation and casting aside of his burdens. I study his face as he prays. I see that he has journeyed to the core of himself and what truly matters. His steadiness reminds me to stand still, savor every breath and say thank you for grace.

Before every meal together, Wayne and I hold hands and pray silently. When we visit Mom, each evening before dinner, we take hands and say the same blessing that the family has always said. While the prayer may be said by rote, the words themselves are imbued with meaning. These moments of grace shared together permeates to who we are and how deeply we love.

All the while, the old man prays on.

Kerri Habben Bosman is a writer in Chapel Hill, NC. She can be reached at 913 jeeves@gmail.com.





Arizona









Giveaway Winners from June-July

We have one giveaway winner from our last issue.

A reader from Huntington Beach will receive a \$25 Gift Certificate to be spent at her favorite Country Register advertiser, **Orange Quilt Bee** in Orange. This reader told us this is her favorite shop because the shop has lots of fabric and affordable items. The staff is very helpful. She appreciates that there is space available for customers to bring their own projects in to work on them at the shop.

We love to hear from our readers about how they enjoy *The Country Register* and use it to discover great finds and fun events. In this issue, there is another \$25 Gift Certificate so be sure to enter and tell us where you pick up the newspaper.

Take a copy with you as you travel around California and Northern Nevada visiting your favorite shops and finding new shops and events to explore!

by Barbara Polston

I consider myself a traditional quiltmaker. Even when creating art quilts, I use traditional techniques. When piecing, I work to make intersections match. If points are part of the design, I try my best to make sure they fall exactly where they should without cutting off the tips with an errant seam. All my projects have a plan for what they will look like when complete.

The Quilt Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to document, preserve, and share the American quilt heritage, is marking its 30th Anniversary with a Block of the Month sew-along. (You can learn more by visiting their website, www.quiltalliance. org.) Once a month, for nine months, members receive a free pattern for a quilt block. Each of the patterns is designed by a different, well-known quilt artist. Participants are encouraged to post photos of their finished blocks on social media, tagging the designers and the Quilt Alliance. I am participating in this celebration and look forward to receiving each new pattern...well, for the most part.

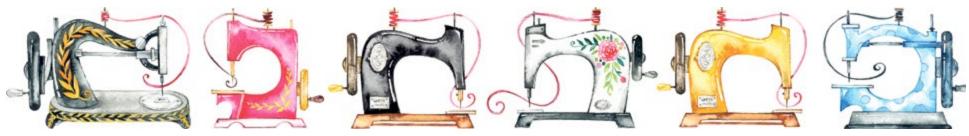
Last month's block was a nod to "improvisational quilting." What is that?, you may ask. An improvisational quilt is defined as one made without specific intention. One of the most common forms used to create such quilts is the sewing of random pieces of fabric together with no regard to straight seams. There is no worry if block joins meet precisely. One undertakes the process without knowing exactly what it will look like in the end.

Given my predilection for precision piecing and a solid vision of my end point, tackling this block of only 12 inches square literally struck fear in my heart. The designer shared their method, which was to just sew fabric together in haphazard rows and then trim the resulting pieced fabric down to the desired size. The pattern did acknowledge those of us who would find this challenging. Directions were given to cut some 30 pieces of fabric to specific sizes and a layout was provided to stitch to an improvisational-looking result. This confused me even further. If one followed a precise pattern, how would that be improvisational? I procrastinated until the next pattern arrived in my inbox. With a need to move on to the next month's block, it was time that I took on this improvisational challenge.

I decided to just "do my own thing." I cut strips of fabric and pieced them together, varying the width of the exposed fabric. These strips were cut to a generous length and then sewn together. As planned, the created fabric was larger than needed and trimmed to size. Whew! I did it! Put that block in the "done" column.

Sometimes we need to improvise. You may discover you are lacking an ingredient for a recipe under way and must improvise a substitution. A colleague is absent and you are called upon to make a presentation with little preparation. Based on your knowledge, you improvise and present. The need to improvise, I believe, is a rare occurrence. I learned that improvisational piecing and quilt-making is not something I would choose to do, but I also learned that, if necessary, I can improvise.

©Barbara Polston, Tucson, Arizona, June, 23, 2023. Barbara Polston, the author of Quilting With Doilies: Inspiration, Techniques, and Projects (Schiffer Press, 2015) and Meet Puppy Brian and Puppy Brian and the Grey Cat (www.puppybrian.com), lives in Tucson where she has failed at retirement, but is getting more time to stitch in a variety of forms. Contact Barbara at barbarapolstonquilter@gmail.com.



California • Special Events 21

Upcoming California Quilting Events

Roseville Quilt, Craft & Sewing Festival August 10, 11 & 12, Thurs & Fri 10am – 5pm, Sat 10am – 4pm Roebbelen Center @ The Grounds 700 Event Center Dr, Roseville, CA Sewing – Quilting – Needle-Arts – Crafts Bigger, Better & More Creative than ever! Admission \$12 for 3 days - \$2 off coupon on website For more information visit – www.quiltcraftsew.com

Busy Bears Quilt Guild Mountain Treasures Quilt Show September 2-3, 2023, Sat. 10am-5pm & Sun 10am-4pm Big Bear Middle School 41275 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear Lake, CA Admission: \$8, Children under 12 free For more information visit: www.BusyBearsQuiltGuild.com

Flying Geese Quilters Guild Irvine, CA "Quilts for All Seasons" 2023 Quilt Show September 16th, Saturday 10 am-4 pm Norman P. Murray Community & Senior Center 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA Admission: \$10 For more information visit: www.flying-geese.org

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Vintage, Retro, Antiques and MORE! (contact shops for hours of operation)

Rancho Mirage

QUILTING IN THE VALLEY FALL BOUTIQUE

Presented by Valley Quiltmakers Guild & The San Fernando Valley Quilt Association

Saturday, October 14, 2023 10:00am to 4:00pm

Location

Northridge United Methodist Church 9650 Reseda Blvd. Northridge, CA 91324

Indoor Event with variety of vendors and unique handmade craft items

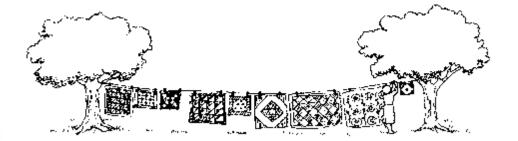
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Jewelry

Quilts

Holiday Items Table Runners

VQG









Santa Clara Convention Center · Santa Clara, CA

5001 Great America Parkway • Santa Clara, California (Bay Area)

Great America Parkway Exit Highway 101, North 1 mile to comer of Tasman Drive

Aura No. 5 by Audrey Esarey

THURSDAY - SATURDAY 10 AM - 5 PM / SUNDAY 10 AM - 4 PM

Visit Us Online to Learn More! www.Quiltfest.com



408-735-9830 https://www.thegranaryquilts.com

Open Tuesday - Friday 9AM-5PM and Saturday 10AM-4PM

1326 & 1328 S. Mary Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (in the South Bay of the SF Bay Area. Conveniently located to highway 85, 101 and 280) 3.500 bolts of guilting cotton in solids, batiks, modern designers, 1930s & 19th century reproductions embroidery floss pearl cotton · wool handwork and quilt kits books · patterns buttons · notions classes • retreats Kid's Summer Sewing Camps, offered June through August



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32nd Annual **Pacific International Quilt Festival** In Santa Clara, October 12th to 15th

After much perseverance-working with the city of Santa Clara and with the backing of thousands of quilters and textile artists-Mancuso Show Management has been successful in contracting the Pacific International Quilt Festival (PIQF) for this year during its traditional October dates. The 32nd Annual Quilt Festival will be held Thursday through Sunday, October 12 to 15, 2023 at the Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway in Santa Clara.

This year's quilt competition theme is "Perseverance"; a call for entries that are a successful result of hard work and determination. Attendees can expect to see a variety of quilts in the traditional, innovative, Mid-Century Mod/Modern categories as well as the Wall competition from stateside as well as international artists.

In addition to the competition quilts, the event will have an epic display of special exhibitions presented by regional groups like the Northern California Quilt Council and the Pajaro Valley Quilt Association as well as touring exhibits such as the Graffiti Cherrywood Challenge and "Photos, Pixels & Pizzazz" by Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry.

For quilters and sewers interested in learning new techniques, Pacific International Quilt Festival features a world-renowned faculty including three international instructors: Cristina Arcenegui Bono from Spain, Ana Buzzalino from Canada, and Uzoma Samuel from Nigeria. The event has several lectures scheduled as well as the annual fashion show presented by Rachel D.K Clark. Pre-registration for workshops and lectures is currently open on www.quiltfest.com.

Show visitors, as always, can look forward to shopping at the event's Merchant's Mall. Vendors and sponsors will be selling a variety of products for quilt, textile and wearable artists including sewing machines, fabric, threads, notions, patterns, accessories, and more.

Attendees looking for a day of textiles and travel can enjoy the Quilters Adventure Tour to Pacific Grove. The day trip includes several studio tours and a stop at the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles.

General admission to PIQF is \$20 and includes re-admission. To attend on Sunday only, the admission is \$16. Discounts for groups of 20 or more can be arranged by calling the Show office at 215-862-5828. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

It's going to be an all-round great time of quilts and textile art at the upcoming **32nd** Annual Pacific International Quilt Festival! Visit quiltfest.com for complete event information.

Enter to Win a \$25 Gift Certificate

The Country Register has a gift for one of our lucky readers! We are giving away one \$25 gift certificate to be spent at a local advertising shop. Use it to go shopping at your favorite Country Register advertiser.

The drawing will be held on Sept 1, 2023 and the winner will be announced in our October-November issue. The gift certificate will be mailed to the winner.

Entry Deadline is Sept. 1, 2023

(Names are not sold, given away or used for any other purpose.)

Drawing Entry Form

Name

Phone

Address ____

City, State & Zip _____

E-mail address:

Name of my favorite Country Register advertiser is:

Tell us what makes this advertiser your favorite: _____

To enter, complete this form and mail to: The Country Register, 515 E. Carefree Hwy, #1128, Phoenix, AZ 85085 (Photocopy of form is fine. Be sure to answer all questions.)

> Or email the information to: california@barlomedia.com and put "Gift Certificate" in the subject line.

Please tell us about a local California or Northern Nevada event, quilt shop, antique store, gift shop, etc that you would like to see advertising in *The Country Register*:

We welcome your comments and/or suggestions about The Country Register. Include a note with your drawing entry, send us an email or give us a call at 1-888-942-8950. We enjoy hearing from our readers!

Truckee Meadows Quilters

44th Annual Quilt Show

"Quilting Techniques

Through the Years"

Nevada Upcoming Event

1st Annual ROCK AND BOTTLE SHOW August 4 – 6, 2023 Tonopah Convention Center 301 Brougher Ave, Tonopah, NV For information call: 775-482-6336 or Chrissy Pope 775-277-0804 Email: chrissy.townoftonopah@gmail.com or tonopahnevada@frontier.net

Lemon Tea Biscotti

Courtesy Cooksrecipes.com

These crunchy Italian cookies are flavored with lemon, tea and vanilla. They go great with afternoon tea, or after dinner coffee.

3 3/4 cups all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon salt 1 cup butter or margarine, softened 1 teaspoon baking powder 1 cup granulated sugar 4 large eggs

3/4 cup chopped pecans

1 1/2 teaspoons grated lemon peel

1/4 cup NESTEA® Unsweetened Instant 100% Tea

2 tablespoons water Cooking Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°F (175°C). Lightly grease two baking sheets.

Combine flour, baking powder and salt in medium bowl. Beat sugar and butter in large mixer bowl until light and creamy. Beat in eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in vanilla extract and lemon peel.

Combine Nestea and water in small bowl; stir until tea is dissolved. Add to sugar mixture. Gradually stir in flour mixture and nuts. Shape dough into two 11 x 2-inch logs on each baking sheet; smooth sides with rubber spatula.

Bake for 20 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center of each log comes out clean. Slide logs onto cutting board and cut diagonally into 1/2-inch-thick slices. Return to baking sheets cut side down.

Bake, turning biscotti over halfway through, for 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Remove to wire racks to cool completely.

Makes 36 biscotti.



Part 3 of 3 "Simple Dutch Windmill"



"Simple Dutch Windmill"

Cut (11/2" inner, 21/4" outer; 21/2"; 1 7/8" sides, 21/4" top/bottom; 11/2"; 21/2") or larger as desired strip widths long enough to get around the entire quilt. Sewing them on will help you not lose your points when adding a binding. Use this diagonal technique for joining the strip ends.

Measure vertically left, center and right. Hopefully these are all the same length, if not, take an average. Cut two strip lengths to size and sew to the sides. Press away from the center.

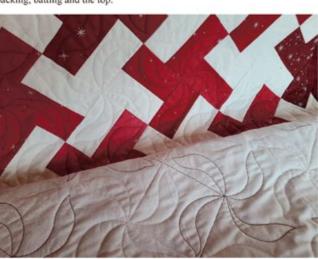
Measure across the top/center/bottom -hopefully these are all the same, if not, take an average. Cut two strip lengths to size and sew to the top and bottom. Press away from the center.

Quilt it - a quilt sandwich is a backing, batting and the top.

Cover Quilt was custom quilted with this design:

Bind it - To finish

completely by machine, cut (4, 5, 6, 8, 11) 2 1/4" strips (depending upon thickness of batting you may choose to do these wider or narrower), sew ends together on the diagonal, fold in half lengthwise, align along back of quilt edge and avoid placing join seams at corners. Stitch about 4"



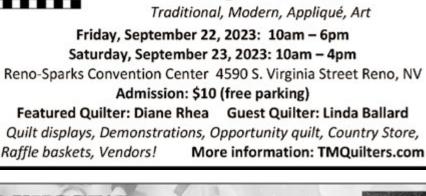
and check that your binding will fold to the front and cover the seam at least 1/16" to 3/32" (almost 1/8"). Join ends by your favorite method and finish stitching down. Fold binding around to the front and top-stitch binding about 1/16" from the folded edge of the binding. You will likely stitch in the ditch of the binding at the back or just inside the quilt from the binding seam. Use thread in your bobbin that matches your backing or was used in the quilting. Detailed instructions on how to do this can be found in my co-authored book, You Can Quilt! Building Skills for Beginners.

Label it. -- Don't forget to label your quilt. It is nice to include who made it, pattern name, who quilted it (if different), who it is being presented to, the date, and location. Include any special connection or meaning that the quilt may have between the maker and the receiver. There are many label options available, including printing your own on an inkjet printer with colorfast sew-in or fusible fabric, or writing with fabric ink on a pre-printed label or making your own.

www.kissedquilts.com



Dealer





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