



antiques to feather your nest

In the Garden Shed Shops
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News from the Nest

Fall 2008 Edition

For the latest happenings at
Birds of a Feather, visit our website:
www.2birdsofafeather.com

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Hello My Friend,

Well, last week I did something that I am sure many of you can relate: wrote the entire new newsletter and failed to save it! Typed like mad, thought I was so clever, then just closed the file in a distracted moment and clicked "no" instead of "yes" when asked if I wanted to save the new version. Yikes!

How many times would we like to have a "do-over" as the kids say? Maybe we painted a wall in a color that looked ever so wonderful on that little delicate petal pink, one inch chip at the paint store, but looked like Pepto Bismol when the whole room was dripping in it? A chance to take back words that we said in haste, without thinking, only to realize that they were hurtful or, at the very least, could have been said in a hundred other ways that would have been better.

Sometimes it is even something we did without knowing it--not inviting someone who gets their feelings hurt by being left out, not displaying a gift from someone prominently enough to please them, wearing perfume that is too spicy or too sweet to be pleasing to someone else. Innocent mistakes, but some that have the potential to be deal breakers in a friendship. Couldn't we just solve it with a "do-over" coupon, presented with an honest conversation where we discuss the fact that we acknowledge that we did, whatever we did, without realizing it would be hurtful? Or from the other perspective, give someone the "do-over" coupon when you feel you need to clear something up or let them know you were disappointed/offended/etc. and let them have the opportunity for another chance?

For some reason, that level of honesty is hard to come by. Is it that we can't admit that we made a mistake? Is it that we can't bear to take a chance that we will be rejected if we level with someone that we don't like something about them or their actions? Well, I'm here to offer you an official "do-over" coupon--please use it if I ever do anything to offend you, or if you feel the need to present it to any friend or loved one when you hope for a second chance! Now if I could only get the *computer* to give me a second chance!

DO-OVER Coupon

presented to you for an opportunity to make things right.

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Bonnie

Annual Holiday Open House

With Christmas just around the corner, I thought I would give you a sneak preview of some of the things I have tucked away for the Holiday Open House, November 1-2. There is a stash of estate find Victorian ornaments (best I've had, I think), a wonderful old wagon with metal wheels, a stenciled red wheelbarrow, an adorable folk art child's chair made of spools with old red paint (this one had to stay at my home awhile~SO cute!), a child size camel back trunk with inside tray/paper, an old metal branch of pine and pinecones, a fabulous collection of old santas, mica houses, German farm animals, some old toys, hooked rugs, metal deer, a Schoenhut doll, old teddy bears, and lots more--plus, who knows what I will find in the next four months?!

Of course, there will be lots of new artist pieces, some Julie Whitmore faience ware, Melissa Tereck paper mache creations, handmade felt pillows, jewelry, books, holiday ornaments...fun, fun, fun!

Sure hope you can join us--it all begins **November 1-2, 10 am!**

I've Gone Nuts!

I am selling a wonderful collection of all things acorn! Beautiful old dishes with hand painted acorns, an acorn shelf, napkin rings, actual acorns--just a wonderful display from a long time collector of acorns. Perfect for your Fall decor. These will be out right after Labor Day along with the old/new HALLOWEEN! (see page 2.)

Remember when we used to go downtown to see the Christmas decorations, stroll by the stores and shop as a family for something unique and special for someone that we knew they would love~instead of a gift card at Target? Well, Cambria provides that experience for people who want an **old fashioned Christmas** shopping experience. During the month of December, the whole town celebrates Holidays in the Pines! Santa and carolers kick it off at Hospitality Night with treats in many of the local establishments, and then the fun continues right up until Christmas!

For more information: <http://www.cambriachamber.org/>

What's New at Birds of a Feather?

Ok, I know you must think I am nuts, but I get SO excited when a new shipment of ribbon arrives! This time there are some incredible new printed satins with adorable Halloween motifs and some very fun Christmas ones. Also some beautiful bird ribbons in several different configurations--chickens, bluebirds, love birds,-- all kinds of birds are due in any time, and just made for Birds of a Feather! There are also some incredible new ribbons from France...and fun, whimsical trims and ribbons, perfect for gift wrapping! Also a whole new batch of printed twill tapes is on the way for scrapbooking and all manner of crafts and presents! So nice that you all like ribbons, too, so that I have this good excuse to keep buying more!

Old Halloween is getting so hard to find at a decent price, but fortunately, I have found a few nice old pieces that I have tucked away for Spooky days ahead! There are also some amazing artisit made pieces and some other very fun stuff lurking in my warehouse waiting for a September reveal! I am always on the lookout, too, for materials that you might want to use in your creative projects. Hopefully, you will enjoy some of my new finds!

Old paper mache Thanksgiving turkeys will also be available at Birds of a Feather this year in my old "turkey case" that once housed a clock! Some have metal feet, some are candy containers, some just sit there and look ever so regal.

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The birdhouse is going green!

That's right, as we all become more environmentally aware, we are looking for ways to contribute in a positive way to this earth at the birdhouse! Many of you tell me that you reuse the bags and tissue, and I always send out packages in the mail with recycled bubble wrap, boxes, etc. My store wrap is made of recycled materials as much as I can find them, and the string is hemp, a biodegradable, renewable product. Part of the joy for me is wrapping your packages in a fun, seasonal theme and I don't plan to give that up, but I will always be on the lookout for ways to use materials that are environmentally friendly and hope that you will find them interesting enough to re-use them~even if it is just to line your bird cages! After all, antiques are the ultimate in recyclables!

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Once again, Birds of a Feather will be at the **Remnants of the Past Antique Show in Nipomo this Fall! The date is Saturday only, October 18 from 10-5.** This is such a fun show--lots of great vendors with interesting, unusual things, nice people (both selling and buying!), great food from the Old Edna Cafe, beautiful setting and ambiance, clean bathrooms--what more could we want?! Please join us (we're just inside the barn door to the right) for a day of fun in Nipomo. For directions go to www.remnantsofthepast.com

New Winter Hours

OK--now don't get upset with me, but in addition to the usual CLOSED TUESDAYS during the Winter months, I am also changing my Sunday hours to Noon to 5. I've really missed going to church on Sundays and it didn't really make sense to ask someone to work for me for 2 hours, so I hope you will understand! So--Winter hours (Labor Day through Memorial Day) will be:
Mon & Wed-Sat 10-5
Sunday 12-5
Closed Tuesdays

Calendar

We are posting our calendar for the rest of 2008 so that you can mark the dates on your personal calendars and join us for
FUN! FUN! FUN!

- 9/13-14 Three Speckled Hens Show, Templeton
10/13 Columbus Day - Open 10-5
10/18 Remnants of the Past Antique Show in Nipomo
10/19 Cayucos Antique Street Fair
10/27-31 Closed to prepare for Holiday Open House
11/1-2 Birds of a Feather Holiday Open House
11/11 Veteran's Day - Closed
11/27 Thanksgiving - Closed
12/25 Christmas - Closed
1/1/09 New Years Day - Open~please call for hours

As easy as, well, pie!

Apple Butter Pumpkin Pie

Want an easy, new twist to an old standby? This recipe combines apple butter and pumpkin for a light, spicy, yummy pie.

1 cup apple butter (comes in 30 oz. jar--see "note" below)

1 cup mashed pumpkin (comes in 16 oz. can)

1/2 cup packed brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon salt

3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

3/4 teaspoon grated nutmeg

1/8 teaspoon ground ginger

3 eggs slightly beaten

3/4 cup evaporated milk (comes in 12 oz. can)

1 unbaked 9" piecrust in metal pan (frozen ones come in pkg of 2)

Whipped cream for garnish

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Combine apple butter, pumpkin, sugar, salt and spices in a bowl. Stir in the eggs. Gradually add the milk and mix well. Pour into piecrust. Bake on lower rack for about 40 minutes until set. Cut in wedges and serve with whipped cream.

Note: I discovered as I was making this that the jar/can ingredients will make enough for 2 pies, so may as well make two at a time and share one with the neighbors!

Dealing with Stains!

So often I hear of stain remedies and then when the occasion presents itself, I can't remember what it was that was the solution!

This is a little guide that you can post inside your laundry room cupboard door to help with those pesky stains:

Grass: cloth--flush with rubbing alcohol then rinse with water. Apply liquid dish soap and rinse.

Upholstery/carpet--Dab liquid laundry detergent directly on spot and let it sit for two hours. Remove detergent with a damp towel.

Red Wine: cloth--Gently dab stain with a white towel soaked in club soda, saturating the area. Launder as usual.

Upholstery/carpet--apply club soda, towel dry, then treat with a natural carpet cleaner.

Furniture--sponge with warm water, cover spot with talcum powder and let set for several minutes. Gently brush with soft cloth.

Fruit Juice: cloth--pour boiling water on stain (use warm water for delicate material)

Upholstery/carpet--gently blot with one part liquid detergent and two parts warm water. Next, apply a one-to-one mixture of distilled white vinegar and water. Dab again with detergent and water, sponge clean with cold water.

Pet Pee: cloth--Soak in a solution of distilled white vinegar and hot water (cold water for delicate fabric) for 30 minutes. Rinse and then launder.

Upholstery/carpet--Use paper towels to absorb as much of the liquid as possible. With a sponge, apply a solution of 1/4 cup vinegar, several drops of eucalyptus oil and 1 teaspoon of liquid dish soap. Let stand for 30 minutes, then blot using damp towel.

Chocolate: cloth--Soak fabric in cold water. If stain remains, dab with detergent.

Upholstery/carpet--Let chocolate harden, then scrape off excess with a dull knife. Blot with one part liquid laundry detergent and two parts tepid water.

Ink: cloth--Place a white towel underneath the garment to absorb excess ink. Saturate stain with rubbing alcohol, then rinse thoroughly with tepid water.

Upholstery/carpet--Blot excess ink with a paper towel,. Apply rubbing alcohol, dab until gone.

Lipstick: cloth--Place stain face down on a white towel and soak with rubbing alcohol. Blot on clean area of towel until no lipstick appears on the towel. Launder.

Upholstery/carpet--Wet with rubbing alcohol, then blot with a white towel until no lipstick remains.

Coffee: cloth--Rinse with warm water, then soak garment in a one-to-one solution of borax and hot water. Continue to treat with the solution until the stain is gone.

Upholstery/carpet--Soak up with paper towels, then spray with a one-to-three mixture of water and white vinegar. Blot with one part dish soap and two parts liquid water, then rinse.