



In the Garden Shed Shops
2020 Main Street, Cambria, CA 93428
805.927.2391

News from the Nest

Summer 2009 Edition Free~Please take one!

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

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Hello My Friend,

Scheduling. One of the things that I enjoyed most about Summertime when my girls were young was the lack of schedules. The kids were free to PLAY.

Our lives are SO very scheduled these days with work schedules, committee meetings, and everyday things to remember to do: oil changes for the cars, teeth cleanings (even for the dog), mammograms/check-ups, etc. We also have to remember to change the Britta filter, the smoke alarm batteries, turn the mattress, vacuum the refrigerator intake, change the AC/heater and filters. There's vaccinations for the kids, Rx refills (after the Ok date to refill, but before the last date to refill is past!) and the list goes on and on.

I learned recently that if you have Charter Cable service you should call every 6 months for the current "best deal" on your cable tv service. What?! I need to remember to call every 6 months? Why don't they just give you their best deal from the get go and eliminate all those extra calls that need to be answered by an extra employee and cut down on my stress? And store "club cards"...I'm supposed to carry a purse full of cards to flash to be sure I'm getting their best price...or download a coupon to print and then take to the store (not use online)...yikes! Oh, and here is one of my latest favorites...I call a motel direct to make a reservation and am told that I should go online to get a lower rate. Hello? Am I crazy? Shouldn't doing business with someone direct at "the source" be giving the best rates on THEIR product/service?

Sorry. Just had to vent. How have we strayed so far from old fashioned, simple, personal customer service?

At Birds of a Feather life is so simple. So stress free. No club cards. We do have a website for information, but you do your business here in person or over the phone. You can touch, feel, even play with the merchandise. We hand write our receipts, count back change, happily wrap each purchase and always remember how fortunate we are that you decided to shop with us when you have so many other choices out there.

Have a beautiful, stress free, unscheduled Summer! Hope to see you soon.

www.2birdsofafeather.com

What's New at Birds of a Feather?
Well, Summer has arrived and the taffy cupboard is full of yummy soft salt water taffy! You can pick and choose your favorite flavors individually or buy the assorted packages--all delicious and the perfect gift to bring home from your trip to Cambria!

The window is filled with a fishing at the beach theme--old poles, a little boy fishing vintage handmade quilt, pond boats and a wonderful trunk that reads "au petit bateau" to store your small boat. The beach theme continues inside with shells, tin sand pails, old glass floats, vintage books on the sea and sea creatures, sand shovels, an old wool swim suit, Lori Mitchell figures and lots more!

The natural history displays are back with more butterfly specimens, old books on the subject, birds, nests, eggs--all very interesting for young and old alike!

We are always looking for quality antique pieces for the store. If you have treasures that you would like to sell, just call Bonnie at the store~ 805.927.2391.



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4th of July in SLO County!

Festivities abound in San Luis Obispo County
over the 4th of July weekend!

Cayucos:

Sand sculpture contest from 5am-8am, then there is the most wonderful local parade down Ocean Blvd. at 10am. Get there early to find a place to watch as it gets really crowded!

Fireworks from the pier at dusk.

Morro Bay:

Laser show set to music at Tidelands Park at dusk.

Cambria:

Fireworks at Sahlmel Park at dusk.

Pismo:

Fun all day long ending with fireworks at the pier at dusk.

Arroyo Grande:

Live concert at 1 pm at the Rotary Bandstand

Lemon-Cornmeal Cake

Many of you requested this recipe for the cake that Marcia Smith made for our Spring Open House. Yummy!

Baking spray with flour

2 1/2 cups all purpose flour

1/2 cup yellow cornmeal

2 tsp. baking powder

1/2 tsp. each baking soda and salt

2 sticks (1 cup) unsalted butter, softened

1 3/4 cups sugar

1 Tbsp. grated lemon zest

1/4 cup lemon juice

4 large eggs

1 cup buttermilk or plain yogurt stirred

Sugar Glaze

1 cup sugar

1/3 cup lemon juice

1. Heat oven to 325 degrees. You will need a 10 -12 cup Bundt pan coated with baking spray. In medium bowl, whisk together flour, cornmeal, baking powder and soda, and salt.

2. In large bowl beat butter, sugar, lemon zest and juice with mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs one at a time until blended. With mixer on low, alternately beat in flour mixture and buttermilk until batter is smooth. Scrape into prepared pan; level top with spatula.

3. Bake 55-65 minutes until an inserted wooden pick comes out clean. Cool cake in pan for 5 minutes.

4. Mix all glaze ingredients in a small bowl. Invert warm cake onto rack and drizzle glaze over cake until absorbed. Cool and transfer to serving plate.

Calendar

We are posting our calendar for the rest of 2009 so that you can mark the dates on your personal calendars and join us for
FUN! FUN! FUN!

Saturday, July 4th (Open 10-5)

(see article for activities in SLO county)

Friday-Sunday, September 5-7 Labor Day Weekend

Saturday: Pinedorado Parade in Cambria
return to Winter hours (closed Tuesdays)

Sunday, November 1 Daylight Savings Time ends

Monday Nov.2-Friday, Nov. 6 store closed to
prepare for Holiday Open House

Saturday-Sunday, November 7-8

Holiday Open House, 10-5 both days

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving (store closed)

Thursday, December 3

Cambria's Hospitality Night 5-8 pm

Friday, December 25

Christmas (store closed)

Thursday, December 31

New Years Eve (Open 10-5)

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day (store closed)

Tip: When cleaning old costume jewelry with jewels glued into them, brush with a soft toothbrush and then slightly dampen a soft cloth and lightly rub over the tops of the stones. (Imitation pearls are usually coated and should **not** be wiped with damp cloth.) **DO NOT** immerse jewelry in water or cleaner as the glue will loosen the sets and the foil backing that makes them sparkle will come off.

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Blog • Blog • Blog • Blog

Funny--never knew the word blog and now I have one!

www.morebirdsofafaether.blogspot.com

It allows me to post something that has just arrived at the store, a great place that I have just found and want to share, or some little something on the spur of the moment, instead of waiting for the next newsletter. I will try to do a better job than I have so far at adding new posts...and I hope you will have a moment to take a look!

Bonus Page!

21 Important Rules of Life

I am NOT a fan of chain letters, but Judy, a friend of mine, sent this to me in 2005 and I just discovered it again. Perhaps it didn't get sent along as a "chain" but may reach more friends this way--and they won't feel any stress to send it to 10 friends in 6 minutes or whatever the original rules were!

1. Give people more than they expect and do it cheerfully.
2. Marry a man/woman you love to talk to. As you get older, their conversational skills will be as important as any other.
3. Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have or sleep all you want.
4. When you say, "I love you," mean it.
5. When you say, "I'm sorry," look the person in the eye.
6. Be engaged at least six months before you get married.
7. Believe in love at first sight.
8. Never laugh at anyone's dream. People who don't have dreams don't have much.
9. Love deeply and passionately. You might get hurt, but it's the only way to live life completely.
10. In disagreements, fight fairly. No name calling.
11. Don't judge people by their relatives.
12. Talk slowly but think quickly.
13. When someone asks you a question you don't want to answer, smile and ask, "Why do you want to know?"
14. Remember that great love and great achievements involve great risk.
15. Say "bless you" when you hear someone sneeze.
16. When you lose, don't lose the lesson.
17. Remember the three R's: Respect for self, Respect for others and Responsibility for all your actions.
18. Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.
19. When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
20. Smile when picking up the phone. The caller will hear it in your voice.
21. Spend some time alone.

Favorite Swap Meets or Flea Markets:

First Sunday of the Month: Alameda Point, Pasadena City College,

Irvine Valley College, Santa Monica Airport

Second Sunday of the Month: Rosebowl in Pasadena, "Under the Bridge at X St. & 21st" in Sacramento

Third Sunday of the Month: Long Beach Flea Market

Fourth Sunday of the Month: Santa Monica Airport

Every Sunday: Alemany St. in San Francisco

If you need additional info on any of these, drop me an email and I will be glad to help you!

Cheap Fun!

At a time when everyone is watching their pennies, I thought it might be fun to list some ideas for inexpensive, fun activities to do during the Summer:

1. Pull out a box of old family photos and invite family members over for a pot luck and see how many of the people you can identify...and label them! Make color copies of a collage of some of them and copy them for a take-home favor.
2. Hate to clean house? Invite a good friend to do a chore share. You go to one house for 3 hours one morning and clean there, then have a picnic lunch and then go to the other's home to clean for the same amount of time in the afternoon.
3. Grandmas--have a "Cousin Camp." This idea is from Bonnie Spencer. She invites all of her grandkids to come over at one time for a day or three filled with fun things like trips to the beach, picnics, games, etc. so they can get better acquainted. After this time at Grandma and Grandpa's, they go someplace to meet up with the parents for a big family get-together for the weekend.. This allows the parents a few days without kids and the cousins stay connected throughout the years even if they live in different towns (or states). Grandma eventually recovers...and has such happy memories of the week! Photo journals or scrapbooks would be a great souvenir from the week and a great project for the kids to do together.
4. My Grandma and I used to make our own paper dolls from the Sears catalog. We would paste down a picture of a model on heavy paper and cut her out. Then we would find outfits that would fit for the doll clothes and cut them out with tabs on the shoulders to stay on the "doll."

If you have an idea that you would like to share, email me at attic@thegrid.net and I will include it in the next newsletter!