



# Mrs. Yoder's Kitchen

May 2016

In previous newsletters I have been writing about things of the past. In keeping with that theme I got to thinking about quilting; is it becoming a lost art, or perhaps it already is? My sister-in-law Mary, who is in the quilt business, says absolutely not, and as long as she's alive she will keep the hand-quilting business alive and well. Mary, along with her daughters, has a team of hand stitchers working for her. She gets quilts from many different states, then delegates them to her team to be quilted. Sometimes Mary will finish piecing the tops together before sending them out to be quilted. Quite a few of the quilts she gets are older ones that were pieced by her client's mothers or even grandmothers that just never got finished. What a blessing, to be able to have a quilt designed by previous generations that you now get to use and cherish and hand down to the next generations! I inherited all of my Grandma Arnolds quilt tops and patches from my mother and four aunts. It is quite the assortment. When grandma moved from the farm to town her health was failing, but being the hard working woman she had been all her life, she stayed busy making tops and quilt patches by hand. Some are a bit puckered and the seams don't always line up nicely the way they do nowadays with the use of sewing machines, but I had them quilted just as they were, it makes them all the more unique. They might not mean much to other people, but I cherish every stitch, hand-sewn with love! I am passing them on to my son and grandchildren with the same thought, these are full of love and memories, cherish them! I don't have the time to quilt anymore and I don't mind paying someone else to do it for me. The time and talent that it requires makes it justifiable in my mind. I remember the first quilt I had someone quilt for me was by the ladies at the Walnut Creek Mennonite Church about 48 years ago. The going rate at that time was 20 cents a yard. And if you're not sure what that means, it's referring to the amount of thread that's used for that quilt. Today, it can be 70 cents a yard, plus marking and binding. So, quilting a lost art? Mary doesn't think so, but I talked to several ladies that still go to church sewings and they say it's slowly dying out. There aren't enough of the younger generation of women learning the craft and with so many working away from home there simply isn't enough time to commit for such a project. I know of 5 different churches that have quit quilting for people because they can't get enough people to show up.

So, what *is* taking the place of hand quilting? Machine quilting. Recently, at the local Mennonite Relief Sale, some of the machine quilted wall hangers and quilts went for a very good price. I talked to Ellen Lauvray who owns the Golden Thimble in Canal Lewisville near Coshocton, Ohio; and she feels that machine quilting is definitely taking over hand quilting. Her rate for machine quilting is 1 ½ cents per square inch. The average cost to have a queen size quilt done, 84 x 92, is \$115.92, and she can usually finish it in one day versus 2 weeks or more if quilting by hand, and about \$450 at 70 cents a yard. So with the cost and time it is a good way to go with today's working women. I guess it comes down to your individual preference, speed and convenience versus carrying on the old traditions, you make the choice.



✿ Time is the greatest gift we can give to someone ✿

## Sour Cream Biscuits

- 3 tubes biscuit dough
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup brown sugar, *divided*
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. cinnamon
- 1 cup butter, *divided*
- 1 cup sour cream

Combine cinnamon and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup brown sugar. Melt  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter. Cut each biscuit in quarters, dip in melted butter, roll in cinnamon mixture and place into an angel food cake pan. Bake at 375° for 20 minutes. If it starts to get too brown, place a piece of tinfoil on top of pan. Melt  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup brown sugar and sour cream. Pour over rolls as soon as they come out of the oven.

Submitted by my granddaughter, Joplin Yoder, 9 years old.  
She made two of these and took them to school for her birthday treat. It was a hit!

## Orange Salad

- 1 small box orange Gelatin
- 1 small box Cook and Serve vanilla pudding
- 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups water
- 8 oz cool whip
- 1 can mandarin oranges, drained

*In a saucepan combine gelatin, pudding, and water. Bring to a boil, then cool. Add Cool Whip and oranges and allow to set. This was very quick and easy, I also made it with raspberry jello and fresh raspberries. The children loved it!*



**Don't forget!**  
**May 8<sup>th</sup> is Mother's Day.**

Take time and do something nice for your Mom. Tell her you love her and thank her for all she has done for you!

**Tis the season... for Rhubarb**



## Rhubarb Custard Cake

- 1 package yellow cake mix
- 4 cups chopped fresh or frozen rhubarb
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream

Prepare cake batter according to package directions. Pour into a greased 13-in. x 9-in. baking dish. Sprinkle with rhubarb and sugar. Slowly pour cream over top. Bake at 350° for 40-45 minutes or until golden brown. Cool for 15 minutes before serving. Delicious!

**Doubt** sees the obstacles,  
**Faith**, sees the way;  
**Doubt** sees the darkest night,  
**Faith**, sees the day;  
**Doubt** dreads to take a step,  
**Faith**, soars on high;  
**Doubt** questions, "who believes it"  
**Faith**, answers "I"

