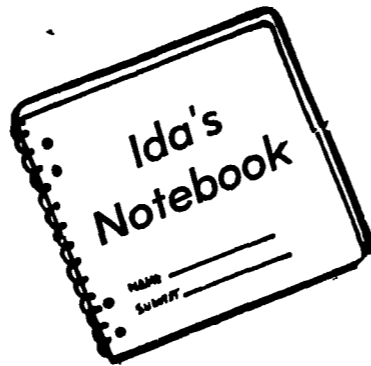


## Farm Women Calendar

**Saturday, March 17**  
 1:30 p.m. — Farm Women Society 12 meeting, home of Mrs. Wissler.  
 2 p.m. — Farm Women Society 3 meeting, Salem Lutheran Church.  
 2 p.m. — Farm Women Society 8 meeting, Lutheran Church, Maytown  
 6:30 p.m. — Farm Women Society 23 "Gentlemen's Night", Bird-in-Hand Restaurant.  
**Farm Women Society 18 entertain Society 2, Lititz Church of the Brethren.**  
**Monday, March 19**  
 7:30 p.m. — Farm Women Society 29 meeting, home of Patty Berg.  
 7:30 p.m. — Farm Women Society 30 meeting, Janice Thomas, hostess.  
**Farm Women Society 19 Progressive Supper.**  
**Thursday, March 22**  
 Farm Women Society 26, visit local Nursing Homes; Linda Thome, hostess.  
**Farm Women Society 28, home of Mrs. George Eckman, Smoketown.**  
**Saturday, March 24**  
 Farm Women Society 4 meeting, home of Mrs. Richard Bryson, Landisville.



Ida Risser

The middle of March and we're not sure what to expect. Will we have a gusty wind or a light breeze; will we have a beating rain or a soft rain?

I've pruned the blueberries and the grapes earlier than usual this year as the warm weather made me feel like getting out and enjoying everything. We saw a wild goose in our meadow and took a picture of it taking off from the Conestoga. We've seen a grey fox dash across the lane and robins in the woods. The tulips are coming up around our mailbox. Spring is indeed a gift from God.

x x x

Talking about not knowing what to expect, I'm reminded of a story I've always liked.

A man moved into a new neighborhood. He asked a farmer, who lived nearby, what kind of people

lived in the area and if they were friendly. The farmer replied by asking a question of his own. "What kind of neighbors did you have in your former home?" The man told him they were friendly and hospitable. Then the farmer said he could expect to find the folks in the new area just the same as his previous neighbors.

How true this is. Many a family moves to get away from disagreeable neighbors, only to find that the new ones are equally unpleasant.

x x x

The other day I read a history of Manheim Township written over 100 years ago. Some things have changed a great deal and others have not.

In 1870, there were three post offices in the township and the total population was only 2,603 with 2,460 being native born. I would guess that now most of the 24,000 have not been born here.

There were nine colored folks in the 1870 census and this figure remains about the same. Another similarity is the names which were listed as "most prominent and best practical farmers" — Landis, Shirk, Brubaker, Shreiner, Hostetter, Graybill, Shenk, Hiestand, Rudy and Esbenschade.

Organized in 1729 as one of the original townships, it still continues to grow.

## Spring Courses Offered By Chester Extension

Are you interested in learning to sew? Or perhaps you have some chairs that need caned and you'd like to learn how to do it yourself. The Chester County Extension Service is sponsoring courses in both areas.

The sewing courses are designed for those persons who have had little or no experience in sewing. Basic skills taught will include "how to's" in choosing correct pattern size, fabric selection and preparation, layout, seams, darts, facings, hems, etc. The series of six meetings will meet Tuesdays April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, and 15 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Birmingham Meeting House south of

West Chester. Register by March 30.

The chair caning workshop will meet May 9, 16 and 23 from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon in the West Chester area (place to be announced later.) Area to be covered will be reweaving a chair seat with cane. The seat must have holes into which the cane was woven. This workshop does not include replacing of pre-woven cane. Register by April 4.

Make your reservations for your choice of courses by contacting the Chester County Extension Service, 402 North Wing, Courthouse, West Chester, Pa. 19380. A small fee is charged for each course.

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