



Mrs. Cloyd Wenger

Her Crafts Serve as Holiday Trimmings



by
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Christmas will be bright and cheerful at the home of the Cloyd Wenger family, 1804 Pioneer Road, Lancaster, because Mrs. Wenger loves to do crafts and decorate their house. She is very fond of antiques and uses them to advantage in her decorations. She also loves to cook.

This year their family room is decorated in gold with their stone fireplace the focal point. A swagging greenery rope adorns the stone mantel and is accentuated with gold satin Christmas balls. Above it is a small gold decorated tree arrangement. Beside the fireplace is a small Christmas tree decorated with a variety of gold ornaments. An antique brass bed warmer decorates the other side of the fireplace.

One of Mrs. Wenger's hobbies is collecting and refinishing old slaw cutters. Her husband affixes candle holders on them and she then makes candle arrangements on them. She has a half dozen of these arrangements in various sizes throughout their house which are most attractive. She has also sold a dozen or more of them.

Most little girls are dreaming of getting a new doll for Christmas. Mrs. Wenger too has never outgrown her love for dolls as can be seen in their living room. Of special interest is a table lamp, the base of which is made of a large glass bottle in which her mother-in-law's old doll is placed. She also has several other dolls and cradles in their living room or parlor. One is a small doll with a kid body and a china head that she bought from a neighbor. Although it is about 90 years old it has the original dress on it. Another one is a boudoir doll which she dressed many years ago. Still another one she made with a detergent bottle as a base and bought a head for it, then made clothes for it. Then of interest to any girl from 9 to 99 is an antique Nippon china six place setting tea set, a three piece setting of silver ware for each and a pair of glass candle sticks complete with candles and candle rings. Their living room is a combination of the comfort of today and the quality and beauty of the past. A very lovely toilet set also lends interest from the past.

Shelves built into Wengers' kitchen beautifully display 46 pieces of turquoise agate ware. An agate colander makes a lovely container to hold fruit on the counter top between the kitchen and the family room. One of the most



Naomi Wenger made and dressed the doll she is holding, also dressed the boudoir doll on the table and displays a 90 year old doll with china head and kid body which she bought from a neighbor. Note the antique doll which was her mother-in-law's. It is encased in the glass jar base of her electric table lamp. Her antique china tea set, silver ware and glass candlesticks are the center of attraction as are some toilet sets in the background.

unusual arrangements is an antique ceramic bed pan with a large candle and candle ring arrangement in the center that also adorns this counter top. A small desk is incorporated into this section of built-in shelves on which a table lamp made from an old desk telephone is placed. The kitchen also has a long plate rack full of antique soup dishes which Wengers have collected.

Mrs. Wenger loves to teach crafts, in fact she says her ambition is to get a job teaching crafts at a retirement home. She teaches crafts to a group from her church and a few other community women once a month. She buys the materials. It costs the ladies about one dollar per month. Extra profit goes to the United Methodist Women's group. This month she showed them how to make poinsettias from chenille bumps, starting with half of a small styrofoam ball as a center and cutting out leaves from green felt. They have small magnets attached to the back of them so they can decorate the front of the refrigerator.

Last month they made pumpkins from orange colored chenille bumps and corn husk dolls. Mrs. Wenger has also made a very attractive owl from them.

Last spring she taught them how to make rabbits from two quart plastic bleach bottles, felt, cotton, ribbons, straw etc. and dressed them. They sold over one hundred dollars worth of them and turned the money into their church group's treasury. She also taught a craft class where she works to make them. Mrs. Wenger made herself a large one from a one and a half gallon bleach bottle and a smaller one using a detergent bottle for a



Mrs. Cloyd Wenger made the pink poinsettia, she is holding, of chenille bumps. Her family room, decorated in gold, is most attractive. Notice the brass bed warmer hanging by the fireplace.

base, then dressing it. She also made a small bunny with a cardboard roll and a styrofoam ball as a base. The body of it was covered with plastic straw.

Mrs. (Naomi) Wenger has tried her hand at many varied arts and crafts as can be seen in her home. She took a six month course in ceramics and made some lovely pieces. She knits, crochets, embroiders and sews. She was in 4-H sewing four years. She used to make all kinds of clothing for her children, including coats and leggings. She made nearly all the draperies for her house. She did a beautiful crewel picture and took first prize on it at the West Lampeter Community Fair a couple years ago. She made draped angels, calico flowers, organdy rose buds and felt Santa's boots. She likes to grow flowers. She grows petunias, geraniums and a lot of iris. She used to dry her own flowers such as zinnias and Passion flower, and took first prize on her dried Passion flower at West Lampeter fair. She likes to make arrangements.

The winter will find her making a corn husk wreath and a decoupage handbag among other things. She is doing a crewel pillow top now.

Naomi, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hess, Leola RD1, grew up on her parents farm near Elizabethtown. Her parents afterward lived at Pottstown for a number of years. Naomi graduatee from Lancaster Mennonite High School then worked in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Hager, Lancaster.

Cloyd is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wenger who lived more recently on their farm on Rock Vale Rd.



Mrs. Wenger holds an old slaw cutter which she transformed into a candle holder arrangement. In foreground she used an antique ceramic bedpan for a candle arrangement. Her 46 pieces of turquoise agate ware are displayed in her kitchen, the colander makes a nice fruit container. Notice the table desk lamp made from an old telephone. One of her cornhusk dolls is on the right-hand shelf.

Frank was a farmer all his life and owned the farm which Cloyd and Naomi now own. Cloyd farmed it for 20 years and they lived in the farmhouse. Eight years ago Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd Wenger built another house on the farm, where they now live, and a brother, Lester, has farmed the ground since. Cloyd is a poultry inspector at Empire Kosher Poultry Inc., Bird-in-Hand and is also an auctioneer. He had a garden the past summer on the new sewer row and grew lots of lima and string beans, neck pumpkins and tomatoes. Wengers have an antique shop, Pioneer Antique Shop, at their home. Besides being a business open only in the summer, it is a hobby. They handle dishes, tinware, baskets, depression glass and some furniture. They sell some blue and gray agate ware.

Wengers have four children: All graduated from Lampeter-Strasburg High School. Ronald took the Ag course and was on the wrestling team. He was a Sergeant Tank Commander in the United States Army and served in Viet Nam. He is married, has two sons and lives on a 12 acre farm at Lampeter which he farms. He has a garden large enough to supply his family and his parent's family at home. He grows a lot of Kennebec and Cobler potatoes and sells a few of them. They keep a pony there. Ronald is a red meat inspector at local butcher shops and does some auctioneering.

Sandra was in Future Homemakers and took a commercial course. She worked as an IBM operator at Educators Life Insurance Company before marriage. She married Roy Kreider and has two daughters. They live at Kinzer RD1, near Gap. They are active in Calvary Monument Church youth group. Roy works for a building contractor and has a auto body shop. Sandy is a good seamstress. She makes nearly all of her own and her children's clothes and sews for other people.

Suzanne (Sue) took commercial and academic courses in high school and was in Future Homemakers. She is attending Harcum Junior College at Bryn Mawr, Pa. and is taking a course in Animal Technology. She has a riding horse in the barn at home. She aspires to be a veterinarian. The Wengers have two Airedale dogs, three Siamese cats and several barn cats.

Frank is 14 and attends the Lampeter-Strasburg District Martin Mylin Junior High School. He takes care of Sue's horse and has around 100 rabbits.

Mrs. Wenger has been a member of Farm Women Society 22 about 20 years. She has been on their scrapbook committee this year but will be news reporter starting January 1. She has demonstrated crafts to the society and made things for their bazaars. She showed them how to make calico flowers and organdy rosebuds, using a brandy snifter as a base. The last 4000 copies of their "Dinner Bell" cookbook have been assembled in her

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