

Relaxing and Rewarding

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decided which one to work on, she says, "It takes discipline." She explains that she must make herself stop at a certain point on each garment and move on to the next, so that each one is at the proper stage to demonstrate the principles she is teaching.

She also has prepared samples of different techniques, and these she has neatly packed in suitcases for easy transporting. A suitcase is assigned to each sewing class, and there she keeps all the things she needs for that course. Five suitcases are in evidence, plus a large "flat" in which she carries her tailoring project. Anyone who has



In a tailoring course she teaches, Virginia is sewing a coat right along with her students.

taken her classes knows that she also carries along assorted other "goodies" in shopping bags. She laughs and says she couldn't make it to her classes without the help of her husband who helps carry the suitcases, bags and sewing machine.

Virginia is meticulous in keeping her threads and bobbins together and marked. She has boxes filled with patterns, and a separate one for Carol, her lucky daughter-in-law who benefits from her sewing expertise, as does her son, Tom. On her bulletin board she has pinned notes of appreciation from students, and newspaper clippings of styles from the New York Times which she will translate into lovely clothes for her daughter-in-law.

Virginia says that sewing now, instead of getting easier, is "a little more difficult. There are five different kinds of threads and regular, ballpoint and all purpose needles. There are also more stitches available." It is evident that she finds fascinating the wide range of fabrics, but adds that this variety contributes to the difficulty. As an example, she explains that since knits will dull a needle rapidly, the needle should be changed after each garment. "Every new pattern and every new fabric brings a new challenge," she says with relish.

Virginia says there is a bigger response to sewing classes these days "because of the state of the economy. Basically women sew to save money - it is a saving hobby. Many women are also now sewing for sons and husbands."

One of the reasons she teaches sewing is for "self satisfaction," Virginia says, and adds, "I have had the most pleasant reactions from the groups."

Virginia Kloss makes it clear as she talks that sharing her vast knowledge of the world of sewing is a sheer delight. It's a love which she would like other women to discover - for the savings, for the relaxation and for the fun of it.

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Farm Women Calendar

Saturday, March 22
Farm Women Society 4 entertaining Society 21 at the Ironville United Methodist Church for a luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

Farm Women Society 5 meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Monday, March 24
Farm Women Society 5 of Berks County meeting at 7:30 p.m. Program will be a beauty night.

Tuesday, March 25
Farm Women Society 18 sewing at the General Hospital.

Farm Women Society 8 Berks County meeting at the home of Mrs. Shirley

Berger, Shartlesville.

Wednesday, March 26
Farm Women Society 24 meeting at 7:30 p.m. Program will be on self defense.

Thursday, March 27
Farm Women Society 11 meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Farm Women Society 28 meeting previously scheduled for this evening has been changed to April 3.

Saturday, March 29
Orders must be in for Ham Sandwich sale for Farm Women Society 8 of Berks County.

Potato Facts

Once upon a time eating potatoes was considered a social error. In 1754, as quoted in the Journal of Agriculture, potatoes were "despised by the rich and deemed only proper food for the meaner sorts of persons." It's come a long way from the 1700's.

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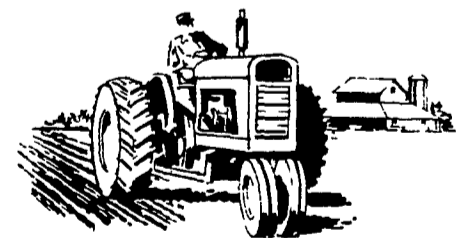
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