

Crafts

Decorate your place settings with baler twine

By JOANNE SPAHR
Baler twine is great stuff. Everyone knows that right now during the summer months, a farmer couldn't be without it, and also if it weren't in the barn all year round, farm children would not have jump ropes to play with or strings to entice little kittens to chase. But has anyone ever thought of a use which a farm wife can put it to? Now they have. One of Lancaster Farming's readers says she uses it in decorating her table for guests. Actually, this is not as strange as it may sound. One of her hobbies is making

napkin holders which look like miniature birds' nests. To do this, she uses the hemp to make the nests and glues them onto bobby pin clips. Then, when her table is set, including napkins, she clips the holders onto the napkins and gives her table the pretty added extra it needs. The process of making these attractive little holders is uncomplicated, and if you have the twine in the barn, the cost is only about 40 cents per holder.

MATERIALS
The materials needed are mostly things found around the house and farm. The



Tiny bird's nest napkin holders can accent a table setting to give it a dainty touch.

basics are baler twine, white glue, straight pins with colored heads, bobby pin-clips, a rose leaf in velvet, a paper 1½ inch bird, and artificial moss.

PROCEDURE
To begin making the napkin holders, dye the twine brown with a combination of strong coffee and a drop of black shoe polish. The next step is to cut the rope into 24-inch pieces and take the twine apart strand by strand. Then, wrap about eight strands around your

index finger, applying white glue as you wrap. This glue will dry clear and will hold the strands together when dry.

While the hemp is still wrapped around your forefinger, slide the top part of the clip firmly between the strands. Inserting the clip should always be done when the twine is damp, so the rope gives easily and the task is easier to do.

To cover the bobby pin clip which will show under the circle of twine, glue artificial moss onto the inside of the "bird's nest" over the metal.

The protruding hinge of the clip will also need to be covered. This can be camouflaged by gluing the velvet leaf on top of it.

At this point, the basic nest is done. However, a few extras have to be added to make it look more real and eye catching.

To decorate it with little "bird's eggs," take the pins with the colored heads and using a wire cutter, clip off the majority of the straight pin. Then, place the remaining pin into the nest, using the colored heads as "eggs."

The only step remaining is to glue the paper bird onto the nest and clip it onto the napkin.

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Berks Co. Society 6

The Berks County Society of Farm Women, Group 6, held their August 17, meeting at the home of Mrs. David Bauer, Oley, R1. Sixteen members and eight guests attended the meeting.

The speaker for the evening was Dr. Irving Jones, a specialist at the Reading Rehabilitation Center. He spoke to the group about the heart, its functions, and how to avoid heart failures.

There will be a special meeting for the group in two weeks on Tuesday, August 31, at the home of Mrs. Richard Schlegel, Boyertown, R3, at 8 p.m.

The September meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Roger Wagner, Oley, R1, Tuesday, September 21, at 8 p.m. Cancer pads will be made.

Twelve members plan to attend the county convention, on October 2, at the Berks Ag. Center in Bern Township. Mrs. Steve Fisher, Mrs. David Hauseman, and Mrs. Merrill Hetrick volunteered to serve at the coffee and tea hour at the county convention.

Ida's Notebook



Ida Risser

The other week I attended a Mother's Tea which my daughter's 4-H Sewing Club held as their final meeting. It was a pleasant affair with each child showing the garment she had made during the summer. This was followed by a musical program where the youngsters could display their talents and entertain the parents.

The one thing that has changed in this Mother's Tea "affair", from 15 years ago when my oldest daughter invited me, is the way in which the mothers dress. No longer do we put on our best hat and wear white gloves. We simply wear a pretty dress or slacks and sip punch and eat cookies in complete comfort. Some things have changed for the better.

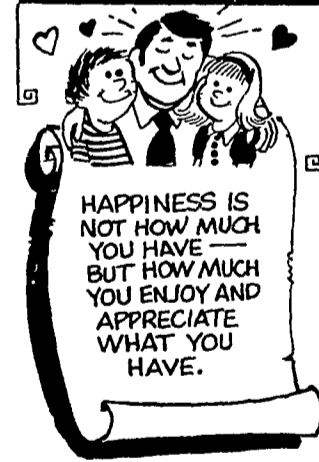
As we near round-up of the

Date changed

The Elizabethtown Marketplace Fair, Elizabethtown, will be held on September 28 through October 2, and not earlier in the month as had been publicized previously.

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