

# Sherry Kalbach

(Continued from Page 96)

to holidays, puppets, toys, nature, sewing, needlework and things to make and do."

Patterns are filed separately. "When I find an idea I like I tear it out, staple it together and put it in the proper place in the file." This way she can find things easily, and should she ever run out of ideas, she can just go to her file and become inspired.

Sherry is never at a loss to know what to do because she "always has projects planned." "Even when I was teaching I look forward to doing work on crafts. I would sit down in the evenings and work." Now that she is at home she said she often rises at 5:30 a.m. with her husband, which gives her "a couple of hours" before Marta needs attention. Having worked for eight years before taking leave to have her baby, Sherry says, "I really liked my job, but I really enjoy being home." She likes cooking Chinese and preparing fancy hor d'oeuvres.

She puts her talents to use in many projects around her home, including curtains and bedspreads for her room and a brightly coordinated room for Marta. Even Hodel, a well-loved dachshund enjoys the luxury of a rag rug.

Sherry has created about eight or nine quilts from scraps of double knit fabric, including one with strawberries, and one which features Holly Hobbie type dolls. Each girl is different, and each fabric is a piece

"that was special to me." She said she got her idea from her grandmother who had made her a quilt with southern belles.

She explained that she had spent hours looking at the quilt and remembering what the fabrics had been used for.

In some ways, Sherry feels presenting her craft programs has helped her gain confidence. "I was very backward in high school and would go out of my way to avoid people. Now I enjoy talking about what I do. I am more nervous about how they accept the things I've made than about doing the presentation."

At the Homemakers' Christmas program she said she presented 39 ideas, and felt they were all well-accepted. "If it's something I like, someone's bound to like it too."

Although she says macrame is the one craft she has no interest in pursuing, she adds, "I really like it all. There is no one particular thing I like."

Sherry's interests are wide, and include being a member of the Board of Directors of the Agriculture Extension Service in Lebanon, a member of the Friends of the Library in Lebanon and the Lebanon Junior Women's Club.

As a new mother, she takes pleasure in caring for her infant daughter and expresses interest in beginning to sew for her. She admits that Marta already has received a wide variety of handmade items "for as young as she is."

With Christmas day very near, Sherry's holiday craft-making will wind down, but she will not be idle. Each holiday brings new ideas, and each season it's own interests.

### FABRIC TUBE WREATH

#### Materials:

- one wire coat hanger
- 12 1/2 inch styrofoam balls
- fabric - 60 inches long and 20 inches wide
- 12 lengths of white 1 inch ribbon, each 24 inches long
- 1 yard wide ribbon from finishing bow

With right side together, stitch fabric to make a tube. Turn the fabric. Thread balls on wire, being careful to center them.

Pull fabric over the wired balls. Tie with a 24 inch ribbon between each ball.

Finish with a large bow over the hook.

### GLUE - STIFFENED FABRIC

Fabric will not ravel if it is stiffened with a mixture of white glue and water. Start with mixture of 1/3 glue to 2/3 water.

Immerse the fabric until saturated, then squeeze out the excess solution. Spread the fabric out and hang to dry, place newspaper underneath to catch the drips if drying indoors. Iron if necessary.

Straight scissors, pinking scissors and scalloping shears can all be used to cut ribbons from the glue stiffened fabric.

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# Christmas Blessings

Hearts are gladdened  
and faith is  
reaffirmed, as  
we celebrate His  
Holy birth in a  
humble manger.  
Now may all  
blessings of Christmas  
be with you.

