

Cross-stitch is fun

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making bobbin lace. "It's not something your next door neighbor is likely to do. I like things that are challenging and I like to create very slowly."

With three small children, it's easy to see that Mary Alice's time to work on needlework is limited. She often does it in the evenings and occasionally sits down to it during the day. The Fyocks have two boys, Michael, 10 weeks, and Dean, 2. Their daughter Amy is seven and she seems to have taken an interest in her mother's work and has inherited some of the ability. Mary Alice states, "She seems to have pretty good ability and desire and can accomplish it with minimum effort."

She is quick to note that not all children have the interest Amy is the one who sews on buttons in the Fyock family, but when Mary Alice recently went to Amy's second grade class to teach how to sew on buttons she quickly learned that some are not so adept with their fingers. "It was an eye-opener," she laughs.

A former home economics teacher, Mary Alice enjoys teaching and has taught her Farm Women Society members some needlework. She just completed two years as president of Society 1 which she joined at the invitation of David's grandmother, Mrs. Martin Moore.

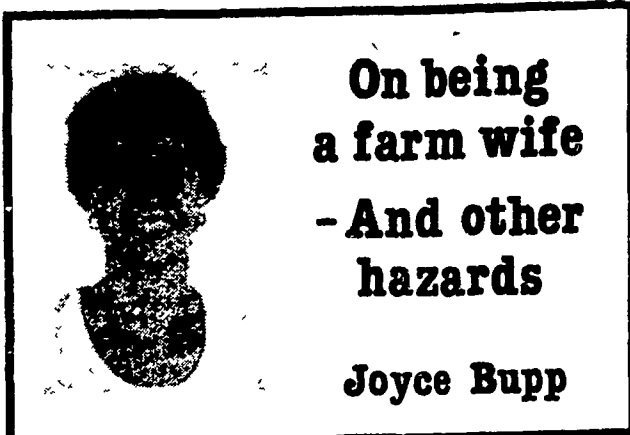
The Fyocks live on the farm where Mrs. Moore was raised and she lives in half the farm house. There are about 40 acres of woodland, and the rest is used to grow grains. They also raise some cattle.

Like many homemakers, Mary Alice does most of her needlework in the winter months because in the summer she is busy with a vegetable garden and with flowers. She also does a lot of sewing and likes to incorporate needlework into clothing whenever she can.

In addition, she finds time to play volleyball and team tennis. "That is my time to get out," she says.

How should anyone who's interested in needlework go about learning? Mary Alice says, "You can really buy a book and teach yourself. With cross-stitch you must just be sure you take your stitches in the same direction. It is a more restrictive needle art. You can also have a friend show you how, or you can join the Embroiderer's Guild."

Mary Alice pointed out that the Guild has two groups, an afternoon and an evening one, and members can attend any program sponsored by either group. It is a national organization, headquartered in New York City, and the local chapter has about 50 daytime members and about 80 nighttime members. Anyone interested in joining can call either president: Anne Booske, 392-0910, or Doris Johnson, 626-7992.



**On being
a farm wife
- And other
hazards**
Joyce Bupp

In 1917, the Pennsylvania Farm Show was initiated as an educational event for farmers of that time.

And over the years that we've been involved as spectators and exhibitors, it's certainly been a time of education for this farm wife.

For instance, on a trip preparing for a Farm Show visit back in the early '60's, I learned just how far snow would fly up over the hood and roof of a '54 Chevy when it clipped a little snowback along the road.

I've learned that the chances of finding a parking spot in the exhibitor's lot will diminish in relationship to the

falling wind chill index and depth of the layer of ice on the blacktop.

I've learned to love french fried mushrooms and have discovered where every fast-food stop is located between home and Cameron Street.

I've learned that scrubbing heifers in a crowded and drafty washroom in January is not the enjoyable task it seems to be under a shining, warm August sun.

I've learned that by Wednesday of this week, the practical-joker exhibitors in the livestock barns will be just reaching their full stride.

I've met and learned to

It is a great way to share resources and ideas and to get to see what some really creative people are doing. We are looking over their shoulders and we have 'hands on' workshops which are very helpful," Mary Alice explains.

Although she hasn't exhibited at the state Farm Show, Mary Alice frequently enters needlework at the Manheim Farm Show and the Ephrata Fair. In the past few years she had done very well, but she says modestly, "There isn't very stiff competition."

She adds, "It's fun and I enjoy going and seeing what's being done."

Because of her intense interest, Mary Alice is creating many fine "heritage pieces" for her family and friends and is enjoying every minute of the time it takes to make them perfect.

know better many wonderful people involved in agriculture across our Commonwealth, the best part of the whole idea of Farm Show participation.

And this year — well, I've already learned something through this year's show — and it doesn't even start until today.

I learned what happened to one good pair of children's jeans that mysteriously had disappeared.

While I was tidying the kitchen after supper one evening this past week, our eldest 4-H'er plunked onto the freshly-cleaned counter a pair of wrinkled, filthy denims, flattened pair of old shoes and balled-up, dirty-spotted T-shirt.

"I found my jeans!" announced the 4-H'er. "Guess where they were? Still in my cow show feed tub that I took to state dairy roundup."

State dairy roundup, let me interject, was held late September.

"Yuk! They smell awful — throw them in the basement!" I bellowed.

Something tells me this isn't quite what the Farm Show founders had in mind when they foresaw educational possibilities of our annual January agriculture exposition.



Saturday, January 10
Lancaster Society 19 meets at the Landisville Church of God for a Cancer sewing program.

Monday, January 12
State Farm Women Convention, Harrisburg.

Tuesday, January 13
State Convention continues.

Saturday, January 17
Lancaster Society 3 meets with Esther Stuber for a safety meeting on woodburning stoves.
Cumberland Society 10 meets with Edith Suders.



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Read

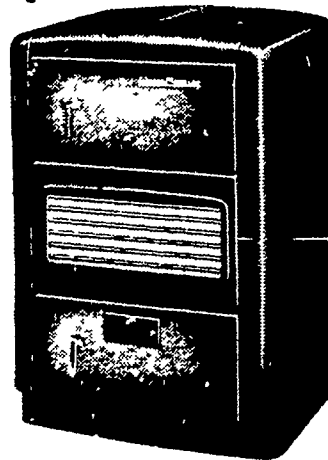
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COAL & WOOD STOVES

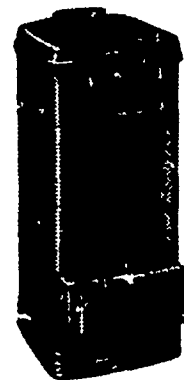
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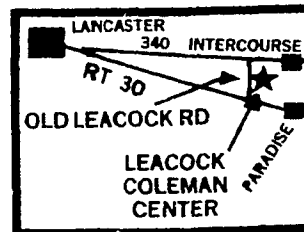
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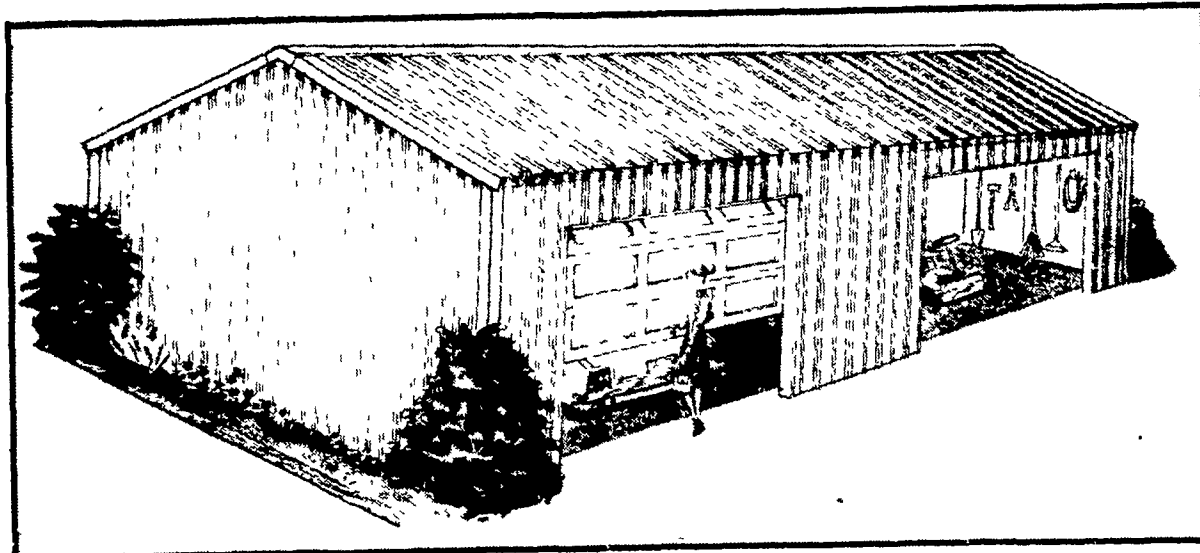
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