

Family Heir-Loom Weavers

(Continued from Page B2)

home of President Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois, in their popular maple leaf pattern as well as geometrics and floral designs.

Subsequent in-grain carpeting jobs read like a list of must-visit historic sites: The Surrender Room of the McClean House at Appamatox, Virginia, where the Civil War officially ended; Wheatland, home of President James Buchanan in Lancaster; Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan; Mark Twain's house in Hannibal, Missouri; the Russian Bishop's House in Sitka, Alaska; Waitangi Treaty House in Waitangi, New Zealand, and a numerous others across the country.

In some cases, an old picture is the only source of original pattern. In others, Kline has an actual piece of the original in-grain. Except for the brighter color of the reproduction, they appear nearly identical. Woven in yard-wide

lengths, the sections are hand-stitched together along the selvaged edge, providing a neat, flat seam. A cushioned pad goes under the carpet at installation.

Development of a new pattern may take as much as six months from design beginning to a roll of warp ready for the loom. Designers lay out a pattern on tiny-section graph paper, known as a point paper or a "cartoon." A computer then reads the point paper and transfers it to a program for designing the punched cards.

Kline is currently weaving in-grain in geometric and floral designs for "Sunnyside," the home of author Washington Irving (Legend of Sleepy Hollow), in Tarrytown, New York. And Heir-Loom in-grain was recently installed at Niagra-On-The-Lake in the home of the inventor of the Trivial Pursuit game.

"We've been to visit some of the sites," says Carol Kline, whose friendliness and good

humor welcomes customers to the small showroom-office. "After we did Lincoln's home, we thought it would be nice to visit where our carpet is installed, but we're too busy weaving to travel."

Heir-Loom Weaver's showroom is a casual, homey setting. A pet cat or two may be napping on the bed where a traditional coverlet in white, navy and cranberry is on display. Shelves hold displays of placemats, table runners, staircoverings, and the various textiles reproductions crafted on-site.

While Carol had formerly operated equipment like the quiller, which winds large spools of thread onto smaller "bobbins" for use in the loom shuttles, office chores and marketing now consume most of Carol's time.

Son Patrick became a weaver several years ago when he was laid off from the electronics industry. Though then unfamiliar with

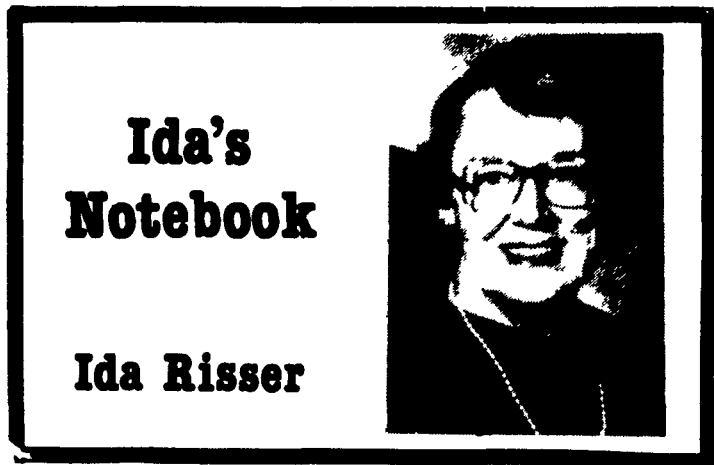
weaving, Pat learned quickly. Today, along with his full-time work at Heir-Loom, Pat has four looms in his garage where he weaves cloth for Civil War-era costuming and battle re-enactment garments.

Having helped his father tear down and rebuild much of the old weaving equipment, Patrick has become adept at loom mechanics. He also "banks the creel," the initial threading of the colored yarns onto the warping machine,

according to design directions.

"We all pitch in at whatever needs doing," Carol says. That might include answering phones, talking with restoration publication editors, handling sales, trimming threads, or attending various regional craft shows at which the Kline's display their weaving.

Family Heir-Loom Weavers is located at R3, Box 59E, Red Lion, PA, 17356. They may be contacted at that address or by calling 717-246-2431.



Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser

Picnics are an important part of summer. There are many kinds of picnics and they can range from a box lunch shared by two people to an elaborate catered affair.

Last year my high school class rented a pavilion and had a caterer bring the food and other necessary items. It was a convenient way to serve 100 people.

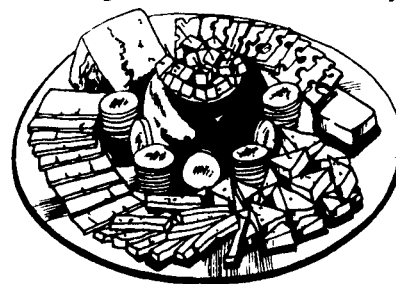
Sometimes my children would ask me to pack a bag lunch for them and they'd walk down into the meadow and sit along the river to eat it. They usually combined fishing with the little "get away" from work.

Years ago when my parents were living, we had an annual picnic in our meadow. One or two other families were also included and we used a stone fireplace that was built near the river bank. Floods, over the years, have destroyed every visible sign of it.

In those days the river was used a lot for swimming. In fact, on Sundays, we'd have several cars drive into our meadow for a few hours of country pleasure. At that time my father had a flock of sheep that kept the grass clipped very short. Today one would have to tiptoe around all of the cow piles.

I remember a double date where we took a basket lunch along and ate it on the grounds of the Gettysburg Battlefield. And, would you believe it, we allowed the boys to bring the food.

A group in our church recently had a picnic on the church grounds. We each brought a dish to share and ate in close proximity to the large modern kitchen. It was an evening with very nice weather but somehow it didn't seem like the old-fashioned picnics that I remember as a youth.



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