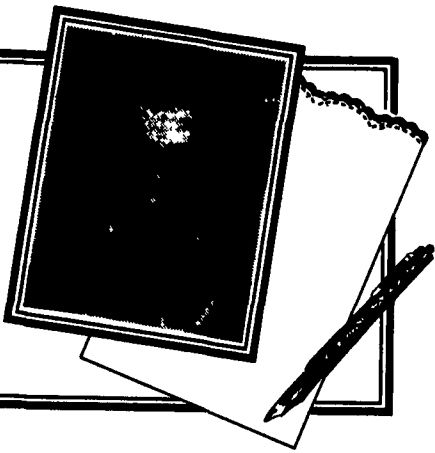


**Ida's
Notebook**
by
Ida Risser



When snow is on the ground and my husband is shoveling our driveway, then I can really appreciate my blooming flowers. Actually, most of them are foliage plants. Only the poinsettias, begonias, impatiens and kalanchoes

are blooming. Even so the ferns, spider plants and vines are a nice contrast to the frozen outdoors.

The other night we kept our grandchildren for several hours. The youngest is just starting to walk and he can really throw a

ball. He imitates his big brother who likes our small plastic animals and metal toy barn. We've accumulated about 100 cows, horses, pigs, chickens, sheep and geese. Bradley likes the two goats and takes them on imaginary walks all over the table.

I've been rereading letters that my oldest daughter wrote to me in the 1960s when she was in college and training to be a nurse. She lived in Syracuse, N.Y. and worked in a hospital. She wrote every few days and told about the first operations that she attended. She was a sophomore in college and three years later was in charge of the Intensive Care Unit at night time in a Rochester hospital. Later she got her master's degree in Medical-Surgical nursing in Seattle, Washington and now is a nurse practitioner in New Jersey.

After reading all of those letters, I felt like phoning her. When I called, her son said that she was in Washington, D.C. as she is on a national committee who write tests for nurse practitioners. Our 14-year-old grandson David was

making a chocolate mousse. When I questioned him about it, he said it was for a French class assignment.

Fron age eight, our own boys and girls always cooked and baked. I am glad to hear that our grandchildren are doing the same.

**Amazing Shapes
Family Workshops**

CHADDS FORD (Chester Co.) — Families are invited to discover the "Amazing Shapes" that go into Amish quilting on Saturday, March 4, at the Brandywine River Museum. They will explore with a guide the exhibition *Amish Quilts from the Museum of American*

Folk Art. The workshop will be offered to families with young children (ages 3-5) from 10 to 11 a.m. and to families with older children (ages 5 and above) from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Family members will search for shapes in Amish quilts during a gallery tour, and then create their own geometric paper quilt designs using a variety of art materials. A museum educator will lead the activity.

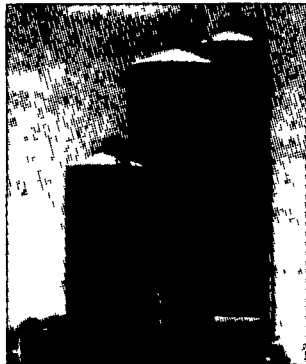
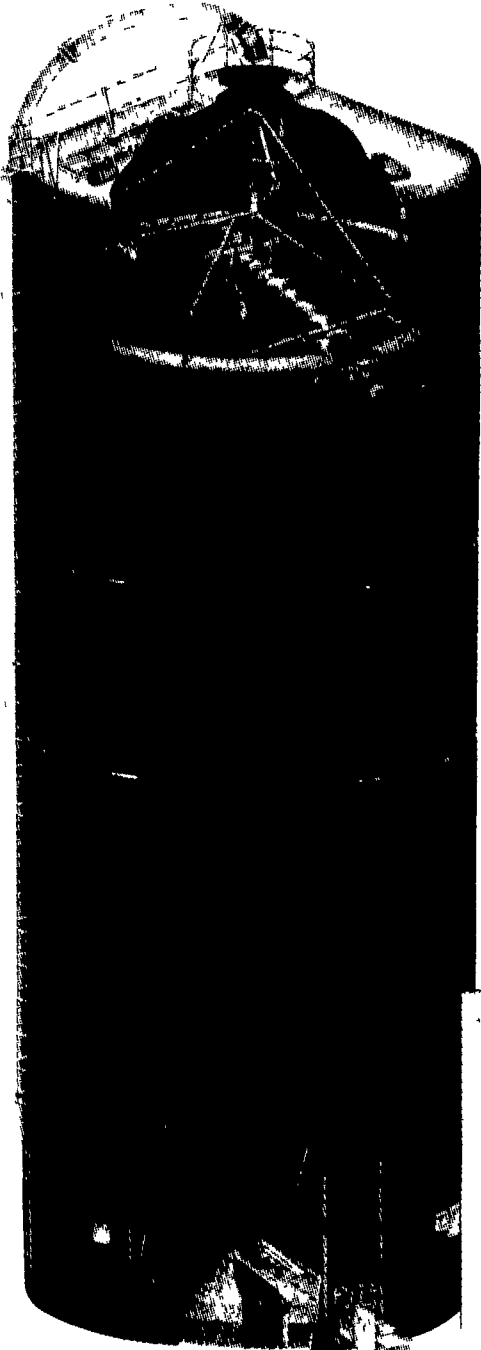
The workshops are free with regular museum admission. To register, contact the Education Office at (610) 388-8376.

The Brandywine River Museum is located on US Route 1 in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. The Museum is open daily, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except Christmas Day. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$2.50 for senior citizens and students; free for children under 6. Call 610-388-2700 for more information.

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