

Ida's Notebook

by
Ida Risser



July 4th makes me think of hot summer days. But, it does not need to be the fourth for me

to get hot in my garden. The yellow bush beans have an abundant crop this year and I've been giving away Swiss Chard and

red beets. Even the Bibb lettuce has formed more heads than we can eat.

When the three grandchildren were here for several hours, they swooped down on the yellow raspberries like a flock of birds. These berries are the sweetest that you could ever taste.

They begged me to play hide and seek with them. Now there are not many places to hide at our house but the boys managed to fool me into walking around the house twice before I found them. Then we played ball and even got my husband to help a

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little. The pictures that they drew are up on the refrigerator with the other grandchildren's. The four-year-old told me that one picture is a treasure map. They learn a lot from television programs. One friend told me to entertain them with tapes but I said that we don't do that. Their favorite request is "Grandma, tell us a story." Now if they give me one word or an animal, I'm off and running with an exciting story.

Our blueberry bushes have some berries and I'm hoping to pick some before the children

eat all of them. We've been giving away big, black raspberries and people seem to appreciate them. As a youngster, I wandered all over our two farms and then came home with a gallon of small wild raspberries. Hunting them is one of the pleasant experiences of my teenage years. Maybe, I'd surprise a lark who was nesting or accidentally scare a hen pheasant from her nest. Turtles and frogs would jump in the water as I approached. I still think raspberry jelly is one of the best kinds that you can make.

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