

**Ida's
Notebook**
by
Ida Risser



With the coming of winter, we finally found time to visit the Heritage Center Museum of Lancaster County. Each year

they change their displays. This year they showed the traditional arts of the Mennonites and Amish.

Some items such as Grandfather's clocks, blanket chests, and secretaries are on permanent display. While others such as the handiwork of rugs and pin cushions were only for the present year. There were fraktur, samplers, and decorated towels. Our ancestors must have had a little spare time, despite all of their hard labor, to do such intricate needlework. And, someone surely prized the work or it would not have survived for more than 100 years.

I believe that I have seen more of Pennsylvania's woodlands than most other women.

There have been days and weeks of driving through State Game Lands and State Forests with my husband. Now I enjoy the woodlands but not the extent that my husband does.

The other week my son and husband decided to go to Clearfield County. I would have stayed home except for the fact that our four-year-old granddaughter was to go along and I could not let her sit alone on the

back seat for 12 hours. We left in the dark of the morning and came home in the dark of night.

Somehow, we entertained each other. She brought along some beanie babies and Barbie dolls. I took jigsaw puzzles and scrap books. My blue chiffon kerchief became a cradle for her dolls and I learned the names of her four toy dogs. It was a long day, but she was a very good girl.

Toddler Gift Ideas

What's the best gift to buy the one-to-three-year old child?

A busy toddler needs toys for active physical play - things to ride and climb on, such as a low tricycle or a wagon to ride in and pull.

Outdoor toys, such as balls, inflatable toys and a sandbox with digging tools are good choices.

Toddlers begin to enjoy make-believe play just before their second birthdays. To imitate the adult world around them, they use play food, appliances and utensils, child-sized play furniture, simple dress-up clothes and dolls. Children in this age group are particularly interested in sorting and fitting toys, all kinds of blocks and simple puzzles. Toddlers enjoy musical instruments, such as tambourines, toy pianos, horns, and drums. They also enjoy listening to tapes.

Nursing Home Visits

HONESDALE (Wayne Co.) - If you have a loved one in a nursing home, Debra Bryant, Penn State Extension agent, reminds us the most precious gift we can give this holiday season, or at any time, is our presence.

Don't expect that visits by you and other family members will necessarily improve family harmony or the patient's mental health. But, visits will provide some of the most enjoyable experiences a nursing home patient will have.

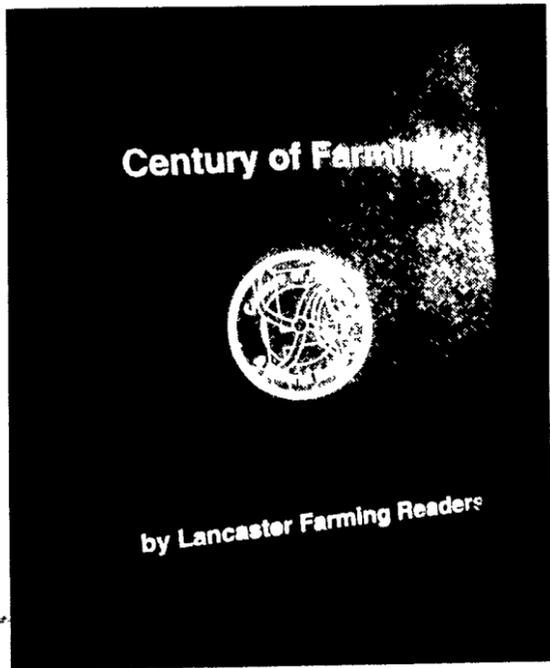
Take cues about the length of the visit. If it's too short, you may not hear of concerns or the visit may be forgotten. If it's too long, the resident may become tired.

In addition to timing of visits, it's important to limit the number of people at one time. Several people at once may increase confusion or anxiety for the resident. Furthermore, nursing home space usually is limited. Bring children to visit. Tell them what to expect and answer questions on their level of understanding.

This is also cold and flu season. So if you aren't feeling well or have the sniffles, call rather than visiting in person.

New shipment to be sent in about six weeks!

Century of Farming



A pictorial history
of farming from 1900 to 1999
as presented by
readers of *Lancaster Farming*.

Everett R. Newswanger, Editor

Lancaster Farming
Publisher

The first shipment of *Century of Farming* has already sold out. *Century of Farming* is the book that recalls family involvement and the historic significance of agriculture's heritage in the last 100 years. This treasure chest of memories includes 120 pages of old photographs from the family albums of readers of *Lancaster Farming*. In addition, Editor Newswanger has written a preface that takes you from the "Golden Age" of agriculture as the 20th century began, through the Depression and on to the tremendous contrast of biotechnology.

The response in sales has been almost overwhelming. And after we ran out of the book, we still had a big stack of orders from disappointed people who really wanted a copy-- especially after they saw it. Therefore we have arranged with the printer to do another run to fill the orders we have in hand and some extra for those who still would like to send in for a copy. We expect delivery to be in about six weeks.

If you have sent us a check, money order, or put your order on a credit card we will apply your order toward one from the next shipment, unless you tell us not to. If you want to still order a book(s) use this order form and send it to Lancaster Farming today. Orders will be taken on a first-come basis.

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