



Rockwell Collins Craft Club

April 2009

**This Month
at a Glance**

Next Meeting:

Wednesday April 15

4:30 Main Plant Cafe-

Craft Clubbers
Birthdays!

Who's In The
Spotlight?
Page 2

It's "National
Pecan Month!"
Page 3

What's Out There For
Crafters?
Page 3

Interesting Dates in April:

1st - Debbie Reynolds
is born, 1932

9th - Winston Churchill
Day

15th - The Titanic hits an
iceberg in the Northern
Atlantic ocean and sinks.
(1912)

16th - National Librarian
Day

29th - Gideon Sundback
of Hoboken, N.J. patents
the zipper. (1913)

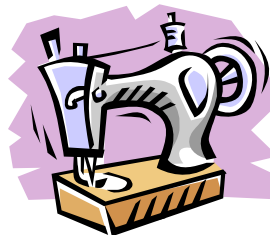
Spring is finally here, even if the weather hasn't realized it yet!

March went out like a lion and the group celebrated last month with the Annual Red and Green Potluck, giving our ladies a chance to show off yet another one of their talents...we have some great cooks!

We also spent some time laughing with friends and having fun with Bingo, and who doesn't enjoy winning (or giving!) a white elephant prize?

Our community service donation last month was a delivery to Catholic Charities, which included items like sloppy joe sauce, ravioli, spaghetti, canned chicken, peanut butter, tuna, hamburger helper, macaroni and cheese and canned ham.

Because of the continuing shortages at area food banks, we will collect money, food, household and personal care items for local food banks again this month.



For our craft at this month's meeting, we will be sewing pillowcases for the travel size pillows that we give to the domestic violence shelter.

We will need people to cut and people to sew. The club has 2 sewing machines, but if you have a portable, please bring it so we can get more done. And don't forget extra notions!

If you're not a seamstress, you can help cut out the pieces and iron. We have lots of fabric to work with!

Message From The President:

Esther would like us to know that she "doesn't have anything

to say this month"....

Except that she will be with us for the April meeting, and then

Jet-setting off to visit the

Holy Lands!



Have a great time, Esther, and bring us some pictures to share!



... A retired husband often is a wife's full-time job...

<http://www.collinsclubs.com/craftclub/>

In the Spotlight...



Meet Suzanne Baxa!

What is your role in the world of Rockwell Collins?

I am a Sr. Administrative Assistant in Commercial Systems Customer Services. I have been with Rockwell for 11 years, starting as a Software Assistant in the Flight controls group. After a year of that, I moved into being an Admin in Customer Service.

I was there for 5 years, tried my hand at Passenger Systems Warranty for a year and then moved to the Dealer Administration program for 2 years. Both of those positions are still within Customer Service.

Then I went back to my true passion - being an Admin here in Customer Service.

. I love being an Admin! I take incoming customer calls, identify what the customer needs,(technical help, piece parts, warranty, Service Center, wrong number!) and connect them to the correct person or department. I also support 50 guys all over the United States, Canada, Mexico and South America! My manager is located here and I support him as well.

Some days it can be very busy with incoming calls, one of my guys' computer being down or a cell phone that doesn't work...since most of them work from their home offices, their laptops and cell phones are their life line!

...Cont. on page 4

So many crafts, so little time!

A couple weeks ago, an e-mail survey was randomly sent out to see what is keeping our hands busy these days. There were about 14 responses and some personal notes too—thank you so much for taking the time to answer! If there are topics you would like to see featured, be sure to send Riquie an e-mail or give her a call. It appears that we may have to find ourselves an Origami teacher ... who knew anyone would actually pick that one?

What type of crafting / hobbies do you enjoy?

- 10-Sewing 10-Beading 7-Quilting
- 8-Painting 8-Embroidery 10-Cooking
- 7-Needlepoint 5-Canning/Preserves
- 8-Gardening 8-Reading 7-Crochet
- 7-Knitting 6-Candle making 4-Origami (anyone?)
- 6-Soap making 7-Scrap booking

What else can you think of?

2 for Ceramics, 1 for each: Rubber Stamping, Cardmaking, Modeling Clay and Woodworking



"...I have tried painting several times and have come to conclusion it is me who is never going to get it, not the teacher(s) who I was sure did not know how to teach beginning painting."
Norma Mikkola

April Birthdays

- 8th - Donna Gelski
- 13th - Esther Miceli
- 18th - Verla Manley
- 23rd - Dorothy O'Malley
- 23rd - Marj Pepin

You Know You're Getting Older When...

- You and your teeth don't sleep together.
- Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
- Everything that works hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.



May Birthdays

- 1st - Shari Burns
- 7th - Pat Meyer
- 22nd - Mary Zoll

... An idea is a funny thing, it doesn't work unless you do...

April is National Pecan Month – a time to celebrate the “All American Nut” for its delicious taste and numerous health benefits. Pecans are the only tree nut indigenous to North America, and they have quite a history on this continent. In recent years, research has shown pecans are also a great source of antioxidants (vitamin E), fiber, protein, and other vitamins and minerals. For more health benefits and recipes, go to:

www.ilovepecans.org

April is “National Pecan Month!”

(Does Hallmark make a card for that?)

Pecan Graham Bars

24 graham cracker squares

½ C brown sugar

½ C butter or margarine

½ C chopped pecans

Arrange crackers in a foil-lined 10 x 15 x 1 pan. Melt butter; stir in sugar and pecans. Spread evenly over graham crackers. Bake at 350 for 8 to 10 minutes. While still warm, cut each cracker in half. Cool on rack. Makes 48 bars.




What’s Out There?

If “You are what you eat” - then I am definitely Nuts!

It seems I have radar for things in the media that are specifically aimed at “Textile Artists”. I prefer that label to “the craft lady”, don’t you? It’s frustrating when people think that, because you are creative, you can:

- Create a king-sized, hand stitched, heirloom quilt for \$25 in 5 days
- Knit 150 new argyle scarves for the entire $\Omega\Delta\Sigma$ Fraternity fundraiser by next weekend
- Spin straw into gold like Rumpelstiltskin



In any case, sometimes we hit a “Crafter’s Block” and need some inspiration or new material to work with! Here are some items that you may like – and don’t forget that we all love Show and Tell time at meetings!



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- Simple Projects
- Needlework Gallery
- Message Board
- Library & Archives
- Contact Me

NEW DESIGNS

A simple project that is useful and pretty!! (Pattern on page 5)

And submitted by our own Darlene Ozburn:



“This article was on a machine embroidery web site that I subscribe to. Wondered if anyone in the club would be interested in making a quilt block or more?” **Visit their site:** www.artisticthreadworks.com

The "Quilters for Comfort" are requesting Patriotic Embroidered Blocks for the Quilt Drive in July.

Quilters For Comfort" is a group of ladies who make quilts for people needing comfort. We are a group of embroiders who met on ATW site and make monthly quilts for charity's. We have a photo gallery you can view to see some of the wonderful quilts we have given away. All our work is volunteer. www.quiltersforcharity.com

This group of ladies will travel and meet in Kansas City, Kansas for a second historic week of sewing and friendship from July 20th thru the 24th, 2009. While at SewFest '09 we will construct and quilt patriotic quilts for our veterans and wounded soldiers.

We need your help!

We need a large number of quilt blocks in order to make a large number of quilts in a short period of time. Here are the details of what we need in terms of quilt blocks...

Material: any 100% pre-washed cotton fabric red, white or blue, solid or tone on tone Cut into a 9 inch square or larger. Embroider a design in the center of the block. Any patriotic design is good. Designs stating a particular branch of the military are a little harder to incorporate, but we can still use them. You can make one block or as many as you like. And you can make the same design on on many blocks as the blocks will go into the block bank and get used in many different quilts.

We also are in need of what we call "filler blocks". A filler block is a pieced quilt block that we use with the embroidered blocks to make the quilts look nicer and stretch the embroidered blocks into more quilts. We use simple patterns like the 4 patch, the half square triangle, the rail fence, or Stack N Whack. These blocks need to be a finished size of either 8 ½ or 10 ½ inches square. We would love to have them in sets of 10 to do a complete quilt but even a few would help a lot. These blocks should be made of any 100% cotton pre-washed fabric in Red/white/ blue color schemes.

If you would like to donate a quilt block or lots of quilt blocks, or if you have questions, you can email me at the following email address cabmarshall@yahoo.com If you can help out in any way big or small, we need your donation to us by July 1st, 2009

... Two silk worms were in a race – they ended up in a tie...

<http://www.collinsclubs.com/craftclub/>

Reminders:

Rx BOTTLES: Remember to keep saving your empty prescription bottles with labels removed for the Free Clinic. **They ask that the bottles also be washed – This means INSIDE the bottles too, not just the outside.**

Please remember that they CANNOT take non-Rx bottles or even the pre-packaged bottles from the drug company—only the usual pharmacy ones that are usually green or brown. Thank you!

Arlys Huff and Joyce Smith -
Community Service Projects
Coordinators

TIP – DeSolv It, in a spray bottle cleans the goo from the labels off the bottles.

Suzanne Baxa...cont.

What are some interesting things you'd like us to know?

I am married to my husband Dan and I have two beautiful boys that take up all my time. Caden, who is 5, will be going to kindergarten in the fall and Garret, who is 2, will soon be 3. They are the loves of my life and I don't know what I would do without them! Oh, don't get me wrong - I sure wanted a girl....but now that I have two stinky boys....I couldn't imagine it any other way! God knows what he is doing! :-)

What are your favorite crafting activities? Or, what would you like to learn?

My favorite crafting activity is embroidering, that is something simple I can do myself. I used to make lots of gifts. Since I have had my boys, I haven't spent much time crafting. I am not very creative on my own. If someone shows me how to do it, what it is suppose to look like and what materials I need to make something, I can do a pretty good job with that!

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Quilters Anonymous

... One way to save face is to keep the lower half of it shut...

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Reference: **Hanger Cover** Original Source: **Andrea English**

This pattern is designed to fit over a standard plastic tube hanger.

Instructions: Cut 2 on fold. Press down 3/8" at top of each piece. Fold under raw edge and hem. Place front and back pieces with right sides together. Sew sides and bottom with 1/4" seam allowance. Clip curves. Turn right side out, press, hem.

Hanger Cover

This is a simple project that is useful and pretty. If you have light-weight sweaters or clothing with spaghetti straps, this is a great way to keep them on their hangers. I don't have a huge amount of closet space, and those padded hangers take up too much room so I designed this hanger cover to slip over an inexpensive plastic tube hanger (like Joan Crawford, I hate wire hangers).

Materials: Pretty much whatever fabric you want. I chose unbleached muslin.

Cut two pieces on the fold.

Note: If you are planning to embroider a design on your hanger cover, it's easiest to transfer the image before you sew the pieces together. You can either embroider the design now, or wait until you've sewn it together.

Press down 3/8" from top and hem - this will be the opening for the hanger neck.

With right sides together, sew the front and back together at the sides (1/4" seam allowance). Make sure to reinforce the seams at the neck edge.

Turn right side out and press. Hem.

Press under

FOLD

clip curves