



Rockwell Collins Craft Club

February 2011

Warm weather is on its way !!!!! I think we are all ready for some melting and sunshine. And lots of Valentine chocolate too, what more could we ask of February? And next month is our St. Patrick's Day Potluck and Bingo. So be thinking

of what you will bring for your food contribution. I know I always look forward to Nancy Lacy's mint brownies or date cake (hint hint). I am thinking of trying my hand at the family hobby of woodworking soon. My Dad has agreed to help me with making a table, using a treadle sewing machine base. I come from a long line of furniture builders, so we'll see what I can do.I.

- ☀ **WARNING !!!!** Remember — Don't park in the Credit Union spots when you come for our meeting.
- ☀ Remember—listen to the winter weather school closings. If there is no school, then we cancel our meeting.
- ☀ Our charity project for last month was the Free Clinic. We collected \$70 for them.
- ☀ Our charity this month is the Cedar House Shelter, which is located at 603 2nd St. SW. Their top 3 needs right now are laundry soap, paper towels, and toilet paper. They can also use canned food, microwave popcorn, snack foods and cleaning supplies.
- ☀ We got lots of Valentines made, both for the VA hospital and the nursing home. Thanks to all who participated.

Happy Birthday!
<i>February</i>
28th—Mary McCusker\
<i>March</i>
8th—Vi Brislawn
28th—Donna Hepker
29th—Pam Hoffman

This Month at a Glance
Next Meeting: Wednesday February 16 at 4:30 Main Plant Cafeteria
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- ☀ DOOR PRIZE — Norma Mikkola won the Michael's Gift Card at our last meeting. Who will be this month's prize winner? You can't win if you're not there !
- ☀ Our project for this month is making sticky note pads covered with 2-sided card stock. We will each be making two of them, and you will have the pattern to make more and a bone folder for this project and any future projects you want to make.
- ☀ Our project for April will require an empty pop-top food can. Next time you have a can of soup, or something similar with a pop-top lid, please open it from the **BOTTOM** with a **CAN OPENER**. Please make sure to leave the bottom attached a bit when you use the can opener. Take out the food and wash out the can, leaving that open bottom attached. This works best if you have the kind of can opener that leaves a smooth edge, so chat with your friends about this one.
- ☀ Darlene Ozburn send me this information about a new shop in Stanwood:

It's called "Sisters on 30" and the address is 512 E. Front Street, Stanwood.

They are cleaning out, downsizing, and having a big 50% off sale.

SHOP HOURS:

Winter Hours effective Jan 15, 2011

Closed Sunday and Monday (or by appointment)

Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9 AM to 5 PM

Saturday: 9 AM to 4 PM

Open Thursday nights until 8 PM

And always by appointment:

Phone: 563-942-5590

Longaberger Baskets, Brookside Candles, Greeting Cards, Aladdin Lamps, Buffet, Antique Wicker Sewing Rocker. Much to choose from.

- ☀ Darlene also sent me this link to a quilt idea. Check it out and see what you think. It uses dryer sheets for the base fabric ! I'll have a couple print outs at the meeting for those of you that don't have the internet.

http://3creativestudios.com/freeprojects/dryer_sheet_quilt.pdf

A good laugh for people in the over 50 group !!! Also for those who know people like us.

When I bought my Blackberry, I thought about the 30-year business I ran with 1800 employees, all without a cell phone that plays music, takes videos, pictures and communicates with Facebook and Twitter. I signed up under duress for Twitter and Facebook, so my seven kids, their spouses, 13 grandkids and 2 great grand kids could communicate with me in the modern way. I figured I could handle something as simple as Twitter with only 140 characters of space.

That was before one of my grandkids hooked me up for Tweeter, Tweetree, Twhirl, Twitterfon, Tweetie and Twittererific Tweetdeck, Twitpix and something that sends every message to my cell phone and every other program within the texting world.

My phone was beeping every three minutes with the details of everything except the bowel movements of the entire next generation. I am not ready to live like this. I keep my cell phone in the garage in my golf bag.

The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday because they say I get lost every now and then going over to the grocery store or library. I keep that in a box under my tool bench with the Blue tooth [it's red] phone I am supposed to use when I drive. I wore it once and was standing in line at Barnes and Noble talking to my wife and everyone in the nearest 50 yards was glaring at me. I had to take my hearing aid out to use it, and I got a little loud.

I mean the GPS looked pretty smart on my dash board, but the lady inside that gadget was the most annoying, rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes, she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-u-lating." You would think that she could be nicer. It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then if I made a right turn instead. Well, it was not a good relationship.

When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the name of the cross streets and while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me.

To be perfectly frank, I am still trying to learn how to use the cordless phones in our house. We have had them for 4 years, but I still haven't figured out how I can lose three phones all at once and have run around digging under chair cushions and checking bathrooms and the dirty laundry baskets when the phone rings.

The world is just getting too complex for me. They even mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could settle on something themselves but this sudden "Paper or Plastic?" every time I check out just knocks me for a loop. I bought some of those cloth reusable bags to avoid looking confused, but I never remember to take them in with me.

Now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "Paper or Plastic?" I just say, "Doesn't matter to me. I am bi-saksual." Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look. I was recently asked if I tweet. I answered, No, but I do toot a lot."

P.S. I know some of you are not over 50 . You can pass it on to your older friends.

**This cake is so much fun. I have made it before. Give it a try !
It actually tastes great :-)**

Kitty Litter Cake

Ingredients

- 1 (18.25 ounce) package German chocolate cake mix
 - 1 (18.25 ounce) package white cake mix
 - 2 (3.5 ounce) packages instant vanilla pudding mix
 - 1 (12 ounce) package vanilla sandwich cookies
 - 3 drops green food coloring
- 1 (12 ounce) package tootsie rolls



Directions

Prepare cake mixes and bake according to package directions (any size pan).

Prepare pudding according to package directions and chill until ready to assemble.

Crumble sandwich cookies in small batches in a food processor, scraping often. Set aside all but 1/4 cup. To the 1/4 cup add a few drops of green food coloring and mix.

When cakes are cooled to room temperature, crumble them into a large bowl. Toss with 1/2 of the remaining cookie crumbs, and the chilled pudding. You probably won't need all of the pudding, you want the cake to be just moist, not soggy.

Line kitty litter box with plastic and put cake mixture into box. (I used one of those plastic tubs you get when you're in the hospital.

Put half of the unwrapped tootsie rolls in a microwave safe dish and heat until softened. Shape the ends so that they are no longer blunt, and curve the tootsie rolls slightly. Bury tootsie rolls randomly in the cake and sprinkle with half of the remaining cookie crumbs. Sprinkle a small amount of the green colored cookie crumbs lightly over the top.

Heat 3 or 4 of the tootsie rolls in the microwave until almost melted. Scrape them on top of the cake and sprinkle lightly with some of the green cookie crumbs. Heat the remaining tootsie rolls until pliable and shape as before. Spread all but one randomly over top of cake mixture. Sprinkle with any remaining cookie crumbs. Hang the remaining tootsie roll over side of litter box and sprinkle with a few green cookie crumbs. Serve with the pooper scooper for a great dessert for a cat loving friend!

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