



In the Garden Shed Shops
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News from the Nest

Summer 2010 Edition Free~Please take one!

For the latest happenings at
Birds of a Feather, visit our website:
www.2birdsofafaether.com

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Hello My Friend,

Today is one of those days that I have to push myself to be cheerful. Now, this is unusual for me, but every now and then it happens. It should be sunny and warm outside, but instead it is cold and windy. It's a quiet Thursday and I don't have anyone to play with! It's not usually really busy on Thursdays before school is out, but where is everybody when I want to have company in the store??!

Ok--my pity party is over--just had the most wonderful ladies in that are in Cambria attending a quilting retreat and they really inspired me! Lots of fun projects to think about and new color palettes that just arrived from some of my ribbon companies...in ten minutes we were all excited about the possibilities!

Sometimes I feel a little let-down after a whirlwind week of preparing for an antiques show and setting up, working like a crazy woman at the show and then unpacking and cleaning up. And it never fails, an hour in my little store and I am happy again, looking forward to the next display, the next shopping adventure, the next project and visiting with my great customers. Last weekend was the Remnants of the Past Show in Nipomo and it really was a wonderful show! Thank you to all of you who attended--and I understand there was a record breaking number of attendees--amazing! That old barn is such a perfect setting with its fragrant citrus orchards, old buildings, little creek...I love it! The two Judy's are such fabulous hostesses--Judy Watkins for putting the whole show together and taking such good care of all of us, and Judy Powers for preparing the barn and the grounds and allowing us all to move in for the two days of set-up and doing the show.

Now I'm thinking Summer...bright colors, seashore, gardening, patriotic displays, salt water taffy and FUN! I hope you will be able to stop by in your travels this summer and see me...and I promise to be smiling!

Warm regards,

What's New at Birds of a Feather?

Well, Summer has arrived and the taffy cupboard is full of yummy soft salt water taffy! You can pick and choose your favorite flavors individually or buy the assorted packages--all delicious and the perfect gift to bring home from your trip to Cambria!

Gardening is one of our favorite topics, and this year we have some great old magazines on the subject as well as old pots and planters, flower frogs, seed boxes, handsome old watering cans and some of my handpainted seed packets. I'm always on the lookout for garden pieces and out on the deck you'll find an old picket fence, bird houses and some amazing old cement animals--these won't last long!

The seashore theme is played out with old boats, books on sea life, old sand pails and shovels, shells and lovely old glass floats.

The natural history displays are back with some butterfly specimens, old books on the subject, birds, real bird's nests, eggs--all very interesting for young and old alike!

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Virginia of Lily's Coffee House (our neighbor at the East end of the Garden Shed Building) will resume her wonderful freshly made to order "**Saturday Crepes on the Deck**" after Memorial Day. You can choose sweet or savory fillings and they are *the best!*

We are always looking for quality antique pieces for the store. If you have treasures that you would like to sell, just call Bonnie at the store~ 805.927.2391.

Women in Art Series II

Tess Wright, Cambria lecturer, will present a multi-media lecture on the Feminist Art Movement from the late 1960's through the early 1980's as it unfolded in Los Angeles and surrounding areas in California.

Thursday, May 27, 7-9:30 Alice Neel,
figurative painter (1900-1984)

Thursday, June 24, 7-9:30 Feminist Artists (1960-1980)

Both will be held at the old Cambria Grammar School, 3223
Main St. Limited seating, reservations required.

Admission \$15

for reservations call 927-5747 or 927-5246

Just in time for Summer:

Easy Cambria Key Lime Pie

This recipe is from my friend, Bonny Spencer of Cambria and uses Key West Lime Juice found at the Cookie Crock in Cambria and it is SO good!

One 9" graham cracker pie shell or crust of your choice

One 14 oz. can unsweetened condensed milk

3 egg yolks (whites not used)

1/2 cup **Nellie & Joe's Key West Lime Juice**

(found at the Cookie Crock in Cambria)

Combine milk, egg yolks and lime juice. Blend until smooth. Pour filling into pie shell and bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Allow to stand 10 minutes before refrigerating. Just before serving, top with freshly whipped cream and garnish with lime slices.

Congratulations to **Carol Gimby**, winner of the Julie Whitmore necklace drawing at our 10th Anniversary Open House!

Here's a handy tip from my granddaughter, Olivia, when she was 3: "Don't ever lick the checkout counter at Target--it will make you sick!" Words to live by. Her mother, my daughter Kelli, dies every time I tell this story, but she had told Olivia who liked to put her mouth on *everything* (as many little kids do) that she would get sick from the germs. Sure enough, she went to Target, put her mouth on the rim of the counter and the next day she got sick! We're not sure if it was from that, but it sure made a believer out of her! Yuk!

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Calendar

We are posting our calendar for the rest of 2010 so that you can mark the dates on your personal calendars and join us for **FUN!FUN!FUN!**

Sunday, May 2

Cayucos Antiques Street Fair

Sunday, May 9th

Happy Mother's Day!

Sunday, May 16

Cambria Garden Tour

www.cambriagardentour.com

Friday-Sunday, May 29-31

Memorial Day Weekend

Birds of a Feather begins Summer Hours,
open 7 days a week, 10-5 except Sundays, 12-5

Sunday, June 20

Father's Day

Sunday, July 4th (Open 12-5)

Sat-Monday, September 4-6 Labor Day Weekend

Saturday: Pinedorado Parade in Cambria
return to Winter hours (closed Tuesdays)

Monday Nov.1-Friday, Nov. 5 store closed to
prepare for Holiday Open House

Saturday-Sunday, November 6-7

Holiday Open House, 10-5 both days

Sunday, November 7 Daylight Savings Time ends

Thursday, November 25

Thanksgiving (store closed)

Thursday, December 2

Cambria's Hospitality Night 5-8 pm

Saturday, December 25

Christmas (store closed)

Friday, December 31

New Years Eve (Open 10-5)

Saturday, January 1

New Year's Day (store closed)

New to the store this week:

Adorable old Shaker child's high chair, old brass faced grocery store scale, hand carved tramp art cross dated 1888, fabulous doll clothes and shoes from the early 1900's, old Shakespeare book, wonderful leather bound book of Whittier's poems from 1873, the best Victorian sand pail, funky and fun old watering cans, 1940's Mexican silver jewelry, lovely cameo jewelry, an old animated tin coin bank, a celluloid fan, hand knit, beaded wedding stockings from the late 1800's, a little farm table and a painted cottage table...oh, and LOTS of new ribbons and old lace!

Bonus Page!

Here is a quick instant hors d'oeuvre or lite luncheon idea that is always a hit:

Lavosh Roll-ups

Lavosh is an Armenian flat bread that looks like a great big cracker and is in a big round paper wrapping at the store. It has sesame seeds on it and is yummy just like it is with soup, dip, cheese, etc. OR--you can cover it with a damp towel for an hour or so (to soften it) and then spread with cream cheese mixed with dill, olive tepeade or any spread of your choosing. Then add a layer of thinly sliced meat, some spinach or big lettuce leaves, olives--just about anything that you would put in a sandwich, roll it up, cut it in pinwheel slices and serve. It looks pretty on a platter and serves a lot!

Now for the great news--Trader Joes carries Lavash--spelled a little differently, and it is intended for wraps. It is RECTANGULAR and is already SOFT and ready to go! There are several sheets to a package and it is found in the bread department.

Now this is a little delicate as we have a wonderful bakery in Cayucos that sells delicious browned butter cookies, but while digging through my Mom's recipes I found one that she used to make for us and it sounds very similar! She didn't sprinkle the tops with sea salt--frosted them instead, but you might want to give them a try. I hope to make them to serve here on Mother's Day.

Dorothy's Browned Butter Cookies

1 1/2 c. butter
2 cups packed brown sugar
2 eggs
2 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
3 cups flour
2/3 cups chopped pecans (optional)
Sea salt (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Heat butter over medium heat for 5 minutes or so until it turns nut brown in color. The foaming and bubbling is part of the browning process, but watch it carefully so that you don't burn the butter.

Remove from heat. Pour into large mixing bowl. Beat browned butter with brown sugar until the butter is no longer hot. Mix in eggs, 2 teaspoons vanilla, baking soda, baking powder and salt. Beat thoroughly. Mix in flour and pecans. Drop by tablespoonfuls or roll in little balls and place on ungreased baking sheets.

Bake for 10 minutes or until light brown around the edges.

Dust with sea salt or frost if you like with the following:

In medium bowl mix 1/2 cup browned butter with 2 tsp. vanilla, 3 1/2 cups confectioners sugar and 1/2 cup hot water. Beat until smooth and frost cooled cookies. Add a pecan piece for garnish if desired.

As I've reached 65, I have decided to make a list of things that matter and things that don't. It's a work in progress, but it helps me to calm myself in a storm and focus when my emotions run faster than my mind!

Some things that matter:

My family, friends, customers. In that order.
My faith in God and his love for me.

Making a living--but doing something that I love and look forward to every day.

Supporting my friends and family as they work their way through life.

Driving out of my way to see God's magic in the fields of wild flowers.

Pausing on the way home to enjoy the ocean and the sunset.

Having a moment to spend with my busy children and grandchildren and not feeling cheated for only having a moment, but instead, blessed to have that moment.

Finishing my taxes before April 15th and reclaiming the top of dining room table.

Putting my favorite rabbit, old wheelbarrow and fake veggies on my clean dining room table.

A bouquet of fresh flowers.

Some things that don't matter:

The pushy rude man in front of me in the "Express" line at the grocery store with 30+ things.

The fact that I probably have at least one spelling error or typo in this newsletter! Sorry.

Washing my car.

Trying again to wash my windows at home--between rain storms!

The letter to tell me I would get a census form, the reminder note, the form itself which I immediately filled out and mailed in, the tv spots to remind me about the census forms, the threat of an in-home visit by a census worker, and the, once again, reminder card.

My tax dollars at work!

Holy cow!

Venting is good.