

# MARYJANES FARM®

Sister Issue

January 2019

With some  
added pluck,

we came up with this easy way to click (er, cluck) your way back to the farm in between magazine issues. As with any nesting hen, we prefer to accomplish our work with regularity. That's why, if you're an official member of **MaryJane's Farmgirl Sisterhood**, our *Sister Issue* will be showing up in your inbox in May and September, with a special issue coming out the first week in January to announce our Farmgirl Sister of the Year and new Merit Badges. With a cluck-cluck here and a click-click there, we're here for you just when you need a sisterly cyber hug the most. Let the braggin' (er, clucking) begin!

Life made us  
**FRIENDS,**  
MaryJanesFarm  
made us  
**SISTERS**



Happy New Year!

Snow Girl by Cindee Moyer, featured in "Self Rising," Dec-Jan 2013

# Hello from Sister #1



Introducing ...  
Farmgirl Sister of the Year 2019

*Marie Bostwick*



Bestselling Author  
and  
Farmgirl Book Club  
Moderator



Once again, I've been given the honor of introducing you to our Farmgirl Sister of the Year for 2019. (Thank you, Debbie Klann, for your service as our 2018 Farmgirl Sister of the Year!) We are honored to share with you Marie Bostwick, Farmgirl Sister #7185.

*MaryJane* 



continued ...





## continued ...

I'd like to introduce you to our 2019 Farmgirl of the Year, Marie Bostwick. Marie is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of the *Cobbled Court Quilts* series, as well as standalone novels about family and friendship, such as *The Second Sister* and *Just In Time*. Her next novel, *Hope on the Inside*, goes on sale March 26, 2019.

In the "Hip to Be Square" Feb/Mar 2018 issue of *MaryJanesFarm*, we introduced you to our new Farmgirl Book Club ([Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub)) and to Marie, who graciously agreed to moderate the Book Club. Here's how Marie introduced herself to our readers:

Dear Farmgirl Sisters,

I've been an insatiable reader from the moment I checked out my very first Dr. Seuss book from the public library. As a child and teenager, I had a pretty impressive set of best friends: Laura Ingalls, Jo March, Bilbo Baggins, and Scarlett O'Hara (to name a few). The characters I encountered between those pages became real to me; I truly considered all of them my friends.

Maybe it was the same for you? Maybe you were the kid who read everything you could lay your hands on, the kid who read by flashlight under the covers, or the kid who was told to, "Put down that book and go outside to get some fresh air!" Maybe that love of books carried on throughout your childhood into adolescence and on into motherhood; maybe you were the mom who figured out how to read a book while balancing a baby on one hip and stirring a stew with your other free hand? Maybe you still count a hot cup of tea, a comfy chair, and a quiet hour with a good book as the ideal way to spend a Saturday night?

If so, you're somebody I want to know!

As a lifelong voracious reader, I made writing my profession. Now, I'm thrilled and grateful that *MaryJanesFarm* and Kensington Publishing have asked me to serve as the moderator of the brand new Farmgirl Book Club! Over the next year, we're going to read some truly wonderful books together. Here's how it will work ...

In each issue of *MaryJanesFarm*, we'll suggest several outstanding, carefully chosen books that coincide with a different theme (starting this issue with Southern Fiction). We'll present two main selections and up to three alternate titles. It'll be up to you to decide which book(s) you'd like to try. You can read them all or just one. With so many terrific titles to choose from, you're sure to find something you'll love and want to talk about—and that's where the fun begins!

Next, convene with your Farmgirl Sisters via our Facebook group and talk about what you're reading. We'll discuss the characters you can't get enough of, the villains you love to hate, the plot twists you never saw coming, and so much more. We'll have special events, a giveaway or two, and maybe even some live chats with a few of the authors who wrote the books! Join us at [Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub).

Our new Farmgirl Book Club will be full of surprises, and most importantly, chock-full of great stories to capture your imagination, tug at your heartstrings, allow you to travel the world without leaving your chair, and introduce you to characters who'll feel like friends. I'm hoping you'll join us; let's explore outstanding books together.

I can't wait to meet you, Farmgirl! This is going to be so much fun!

*Marie Bostwick*

Farmgirl Sister #7185

continued ...



continued ...

Marie writes uplifting historical and women's fiction. An unabashed advocate of happy endings, she crafts strong female characters who feel like friends, bringing messages of hope and encouragement to readers' lives.

When not traveling the country to speak at quilt shows, libraries, and conferences, Marie and her husband of 35 years, Brad, live in Oregon. They have three grown sons, two daughters-in-law, and four adorable and "extremely advanced" grandchildren.



Marie is also "dog mom" to a beautiful Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Showgirl. "Here's the thing about Showgirl: we're soul mates," says Marie. "Even though she was a year old when she came into my life back in May 2017, we bonded instantly. From the first minute, she was my dog and I was her person. She has been my constant companion and a bright light in my life."





## continued ...

On the path to becoming a novelist, Marie worked in the bean fields of Oregon, sang and danced in musical productions, acted in TV commercials, taught religion to deaf children, ran an event-planning business, worked as the scheduler for a U.S. Senator, and directed women's ministries for a large church.

But as diverse and enriching as these experiences were, it was a conversation with a stranger back in 1994 that pointed Marie toward her true calling.

Then the mother to three active young sons, Marie went on a much-needed vacation to a resort with some girlfriends. While there, she decided to attend a writer's workshop, "not from any desire to become a writer," she said, "but as a way to avoid playing tennis with my friends. I'm hopelessly unathletic." At the end of the week, the instructor approached her, and thinking she was a professional writer, asked what she'd published.

"I just laughed. I told him that I was a mom, and the only thing I wrote was grocery lists." The instructor insisted that whether Marie knew it or not, she was a writer. Marie thanked him for the compliment, saying she wasn't a writer, just someone who hadn't fired her imaginary friends when she grew up. "Then he leaned toward me and said, 'Well, what do you think writers are?' That got my attention. I think I realized then that he was onto something, that my secret identity had finally been unmasked."

The signs were there from an early age. A voracious reader by the age of 3, Marie said one of her first literary endeavors was a screenplay she wrote for *Camelot* before she was old enough to attend public school. The musical was a favorite of Marie's, and, not having seen the movie, she wrote her own story to go with the music she'd heard on her grandmother's record player. In high school, Marie wrote short stories and "a lot of sad, self-absorbed teenage poetry," which earned her the school English award.

Born in Eugene, Oregon, the youngest of four sisters experienced a life of comfort in her early years, then financial hardships after her parents' divorce. But childhood summers spent working in the fields taught her industry and the dignity of good, hard work. They also provided the insight into the hearts and minds of small communities, the settings for her novels.

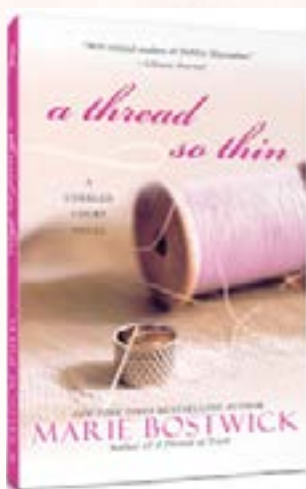
Marie dedicated four years to writing *Fields of Gold*. Published in 2005 by Kensington Books, *Fields of Gold* was a finalist for the prestigious Oklahoma Book Award and for *RT BOOK Reviews* magazine's Best Historical Saga Award. *River's Edge* won the Golden Quill Award, was a finalist for a National Readers' Choice Award and was an alternate selection of the Literary Guild. Her novellas, *A High-Kicking Christmas* and *The Presents of Angels*, which were included, respectively, in the holiday anthologies *Comfort and Joy* and *Snow Angels*, appeared on the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestseller lists.

continued ...





continued ...



Drawing on her lifelong love of quilting and themes of special relevance to modern women, Marie's *Cobbled Court Quilt* series has gained a dedicated following among quilters as well as those who've never threaded a needle and don't plan to try. The first book in the series, *A Single Thread*, published in 2008, is now in its sixteenth printing. That book, as well as the third book in the series, *A Thread So Thin*, were included in *Reader's Digest Select Editions*. *A Thread of Truth* (2009) was named an "Indie Next Notable" book by the members of the Independent Bookseller's Association. *Ties That Bind* has been nominated as Best Mainstream Novel of 2012 by *RT BOOK Reviews* magazine. In 2014, Marie was recognized for Career Achievement in Mainstream Novels award by the same organization.

Marie also enjoys volunteering to help others. When she was 25, she became the first president of a new chapter of Habitat for Humanity in Georgia. When living in Mexico, she served as the volunteer director of development for Manos de Ayuda (Helping Hands), a medical mission to the poor. She continues to volunteer her time to various church and community organizations today and was proud to serve a three-year term on the board of the Quilt Alliance.

"It feels like the rest of my life and experiences were the lessons that I had to master so I could do this thing I was truly meant to do," Marie said, adding, "I can't imagine being anything but a writer."

Marie's latest endeavor is her recently-launched lifestyle blog, **FierceBeyond50**, a community for women to seize and celebrate their maturity, leading lives of significance, empowerment, and joy.

When not writing, she enjoys quilting, reading, cooking, spending time with family and friends, and especially playing with her grandkids. Marie travels extensively, speaking at libraries, bookstores, quilt guilds, and at quilt shows. She has been a featured speaker at the Paducah Quilt Festival and the Houston International Quilt Festival and has given keynote addresses at both the Florida Writers Association and La Jolla Writers conferences.

And for you Hallmark Channel Christmas-movie fans, you'll be tickled to know that one of Marie's novels, *The Second Sister*, has been adapted into a Hallmark Hall of Fame television movie titled *Christmas Everlasting*. It premiered on Thanksgiving weekend and stars Tatyana Ali, Dondre Whitfield, and the one and only Patti LaBelle. Be sure to stop by the Farmgirl Book Club to talk holiday books, Hallmark movies, and your tips and thoughts on keeping the holidays merry and bright. Just visit [Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub).



continued ...





continued ...





continued ...

Needless to say, we're honored to have Marie as our 2019 Farmgirl Sister of the Year!

MaryJane 

P.S. We were thrilled to receive this recent letter from Lisa Holderman, Farmgirl Sister #3316 ... just one example of the impact the Farmgirl Book Club has had on our Sisterhood.

Dear MaryJane,

I have been a subscriber to your magazine and a Farmgirl Sister for years now. I am among the many of your loyal following who looks forward to each issue that comes in my mailbox. As soon as I open the door to my mailbox and see the cover of the magazine smiling at me, I practically do a dance up to the house, carrying it like a prize I just won. While I certainly could sit down and read your magazine cover to cover at the very moment I receive it, I limit myself and savor each article and story. I read one or two and walk away, allowing myself to think about what I read and extending my enjoyment out over several days. This is my modus operandi for each issue that comes. I have also really enjoyed your online journal, *Raising Jane*. The topics and photography are wonderful and inspiring.

We all have those years in our life that we unfortunately look forward to closing out because it has been particularly difficult or downright awful. That year began in 2017 for me. I experienced overwhelming loss in many forms and in many areas of my life. While I did not think I was depressed, I did recognize that I had no inertia, no desire, and no interest in anything. I became a zombie in front of the boob tube. I was emotionally and physically exhausted and lacked any creativity. My light literally went out. I did not read, write, craft, sew, bake, or hike. These are all activities that I normally love ... that make up who I am. But I just could not bring myself to do any of them. It was not a conscious choice, which is how I know now that it was grief. When your magazine arrived in January or February of 2018, I came upon the announcement about the

Farmgirl Book Club. It was as if a switch was thrown and my light was back on again. **This book club has given me back my life and has inspired me to do more, risk more, and challenge myself more.**

I know you receive countless letters from people all over the world thanking you for writing and sharing your gifts and the gifts of your family, friends, and fans—all very much deserved, I might add. I wanted to share with you not only my thanks and appreciation, but also to express how I feel God used you to save me from my deep despair. I'm not sure how the idea of a book club came to be, and I can only imagine the extra work and effort it has been for Marie Bostwick, Kensington Publishing, and yourself to make it a reality and keep it going. I am just so grateful that you did. It is because of you and this club that my love for reading and my spark has returned. Had you not formed this club, I would not have met the wonderful people who have helped catapult me in a new direction in my life. One of my favorite quotes from Jan Karon's *At Home in Mitford* is from Father Tim. He says, as he enters the doors of his church each day, "Make me a blessing to someone today, Lord." It really is true that you never know just how God will use you to be a blessing to someone else's life, but He does. Thanks to you and the book club, my creativity and excitement have returned. I am braver than I was before joining and inspired to pursue something I have loved for a long time but never had the courage to share with anyone ... until now. So thanks! I am forever grateful!

– Your farmgirl sister, Lisa (Sister #3316), Indiana

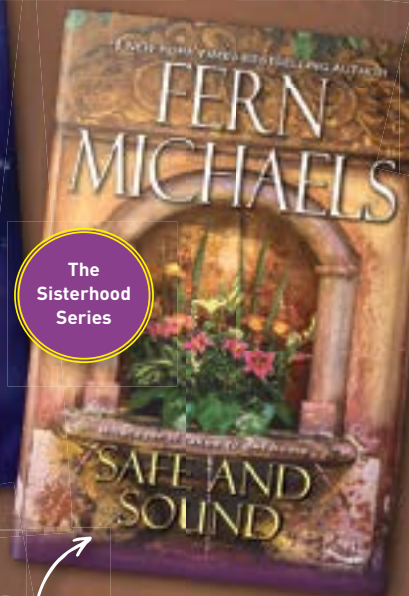


# Books TO Read, Share, & Discuss!

Follow one woman whose **memory is shattered** as she must reevaluate and **piece together** her life, love, and relationships...



The  
Sisterhood  
Series

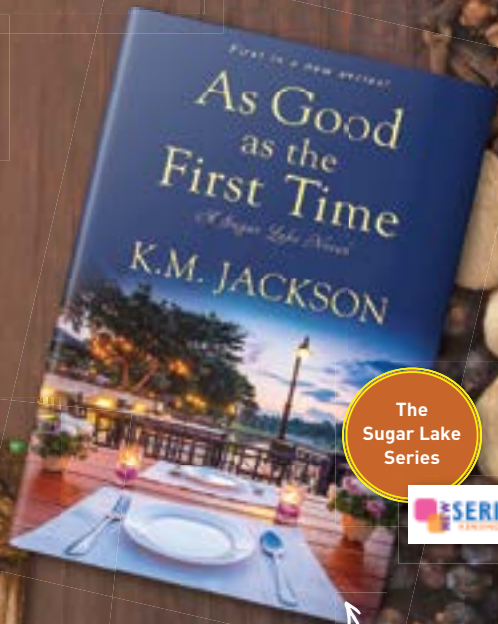


Join #1 *New York Times* bestselling author **Fern Michaels** for a new adventure with **The Sisterhood**—women **bound by** friendship and a **quest for justice**.

Meet "Sonny," an **unforgettable young heroine**, and a family tested to its limits in the **masterful new novel** set in **1950s North Carolina**, from the acclaimed author of *The Education of Dixie Dupree*.



Visit the *USA Today* bestselling author's small, **beautiful Blue Ridge Mountain town** of Blue Hollow Falls—the perfect place **to heal your soul and start again**.



The  
Sugar Lake  
Series

SERIES  
A KENSINGTON BOOK

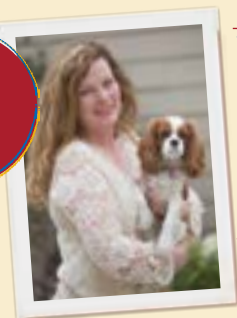
Clayton's a firefighter, a single dad, and Olivia's **first love**. Find out what happens when **she comes back to town**. Can their **old flame reignite**?



The  
Blue Hollow  
Falls  
Series



reading  
with  
Marie



I'd like to introduce you to Marie Bostwick. Marie is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of the *Cobbled Court Quilts* series, as well as standalone novels about family and friendship, such as *The Second Sister* and *Just In Time*. Her next novel, *Hope on the Inside*, goes on sale March 26, 2019. For more information about Marie, her novels, quilting, and contests, visit [MarieBostwick.com](http://MarieBostwick.com).

Meg

# farmgirl BOOK CLUB

I've been an insatiable reader from the moment I checked out my very first Dr. Seuss book from the public library. Books have always been a constant in my life, especially as I've made writing my profession. That's why I'm so pleased to be a part of the Farmgirl Book Club for the second year in a row. For anyone who's new to the Farmgirl Book Club, here's how it works ...

In each issue of *MaryJanesFarm*, we suggest several outstanding, carefully chosen books that coincide with a different theme. It's up to you to decide which book(s) you'd like to try. You can read them all or just one. With so many terrific titles to choose from, you're sure to find something you'll love and want to talk about—and that's where the fun begins!

Next, convene with your Farmgirl Sisters via our Facebook group and talk about what you're reading. We discuss the characters you can't get enough of, the villains you love to hate, the plot twists you never saw coming, and so much more. We also have special events, giveaways, and even live chats with some of the authors who wrote the books!

Our Farmgirl Book Club is full of surprises, and most importantly, chock-full of great stories to capture your imagination, tug at your heartstrings, allow you to travel the world without leaving your chair, and introduce you to characters who feel like friends. I'm hoping you'll join us; let's explore outstanding books together.

Marie Bostwick

Farmgirl Sister #7185

Reading with Marie, FEB/MAR 2019

## Animal Books

Dear Farmgirl Book Club Sisters,  
February 20 is National Love Your Pet Day, and while every day is love your pet day in my house, I'm all for any excuse to officially celebrate the many ways pets—and animals in general—deserve our love. We can learn so much about kindness, morality, loyalty, and love through our relationships with our pets, can't we?

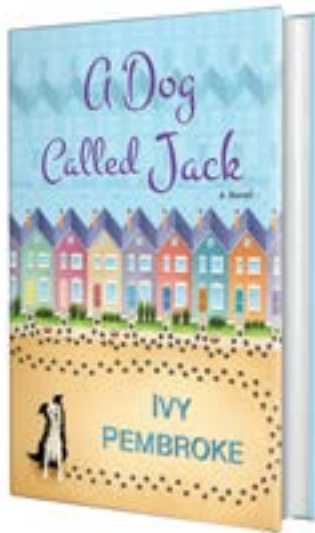
Those of you who are my Facebook friends or have visited my blog, [FierceBeyond50.com](http://FierceBeyond50.com), are probably familiar with my darling Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Showgirl. Here's the thing about Showgirl: we're soul mates. Even though she was a year old when she came into my life back in May 2017, we bonded instantly. From the first minute, she was my dog and I was her person. She has been my constant companion and a bright light in my life.

Known as "the comforter spaniels," Cavaliers are all about their people. They love nothing more than spending the day calmly sitting in their human's lap or lying at their feet—though they much prefer the lap. Showgirl is no exception, which makes her the perfect dog for a writer ... and an even more perfect dog for a voracious book reader!



Of course, humans generally outlive our animal companions, so these relationships can often be bittersweet experiences. Many novels that revolve around animals reflect that reality, which means it can be difficult to find stories that don't need to be read with a box of tissues at hand. I'm not saying I haven't been moved and inspired by certain novels that address the loss of a dear pet, I just know all too well how difficult they can be to read. So for anyone else who's still traumatized by *Old Yeller*, I hope you'll understand why I feel compelled to introduce this issue's Farmgirl Book Club selections with a spoiler alert: all five of these novels are moving, heartwarming, and have happy endings! I hope you'll join us at [Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub) as we discuss these novels in the weeks ahead, or just stop by to share some photos and stories about the special animals who have changed your own life. Happy reading!



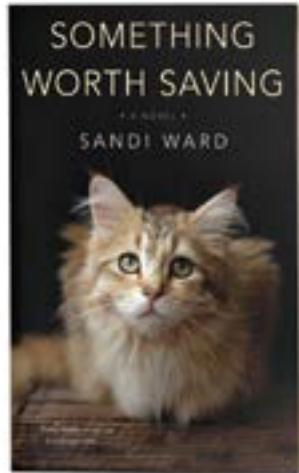


### ***A Dog Called Jack***

by Ivy Pembroke

Charming and witty, *A Dog Called Jack* is a story about community, compassion, and a very special canine who transforms the quirky inhabitants of a neighborhood block into one big family. Abandoned by his previous owners (clearly terrible), Jack is a dog in need of a home, and the homes on Christmas Street just happen to be filled with people in need of a dog like Jack. While it's set in London, this novel has a small-town feel because it takes place on one street in a little neighborhood within the big city. The residents of the street are all wonderfully diverse and well-developed. There's Bill, a grumpy old man who's lived on the street for decades, watching as it

changed from a close-knit community where everyone knew each other to a row of houses occupied by strangers. There's Sam, a recently widowed single father, and his sensitive, lonely, 8-year-old son, Teddy, who have just moved to the neighborhood from America. Max and his husband Arthur are desperately trying to make a family; Pen Cheever is a single woman whose personal blog has started to include her observations of her neighbors; Pari is an Indian girl whose teenage brother, Sai, is secretly seeing their Polish neighbor despite their families' objections to the relationship. Many other endearing characters of different ages and backgrounds live on the street, but it's Jack who manages to turn the residents of Christmas Street into a true community. Fans of Fredrik Backman and anyone in search of a gentle read with a strong emotional payoff will love the humor and humanity of this novel.



### ***Something Worth Saving***

by Sandi Ward

Surprisingly funny and wonderfully tender, Sandi Ward's novel is an unusual exploration of family life as told by a highly perceptive, outspoken, and inspiring narrator named Lily ... who happens to be a cat. Lily is keenly observant and a fiercely loyal friend to Charlie, the teenager who rescued her from the shelter. So when she sees Charlie's bruises and realizes someone is hurting him, she is determined to get to the bottom of things. Aware of a cat's limited options when it comes to solving human problems, Lily knows that to help Charlie, she needs to get the rest of the family to focus on

him—not a simple task because this novel isn't just a book for animal lovers. It's also a family drama that addresses issues like divorce and alcoholism. Whether you consider yourself a cat person or not, you will fall in love with Lily's voice from the very beginning of this story. And you'll be uplifted by her faith in the fact that you don't always have to be the biggest or the strongest to fight fiercely for the ones you love.

Join us on the Farmgirl Book Club Facebook Group to learn more, meet the authors, enter giveaways, and talk about books. [Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub)

### ***The Secret Life of Mac***

by Melinda Metz

If you've ever shared your home and heart with a lovably naughty animal that's always up to mischief, you'll be charmed by MacGyver, the matchmaking klepto-kitty who stars in this delightful romantic comedy. Inspired by true stories of cats who have been caught stealing from humans, MacGyver is an adorable tabby cat who uses his thieving skills to make sure things work out for the people in his life, including the neighbors he so enjoys cat burgling and the cat sitter for whom he's determined to find a boyfriend. This is a *pawsome* story that's guaranteed to put a smile on your face.



### ***The Novel Art of Murder***

by V.M. Burns

Where would the great detectives of the world be without their faithful sidekicks? Sherlock Holmes had Dr. Watson. Nancy Drew had Bess and George. Inspector Poirot had Arthur Hastings. And Samantha Washington—bookstore owner, author, and amateur sleuth—has her two toy poodles, Snickers and Oreo. What I adore about this fun, cozy mystery is the emotional support that Snickers and Oreo bring to Samantha as she juggles her two jobs, her own relationships, and her responsibility to track down a killer so she can clear her Nana Jo's name. The dual-storyline and complicated mysteries in this novel are balanced with snapshots of Samantha performing the mundanities of pet ownership—the potty breaks, the snuggles, the pensive thoughts on mortality—that make her character so relatable. Sometimes, the greatest help our four-legged friends can provide is just to give us a reason to slow down, assess, and move forward—something to which many a pet owner can surely attest!



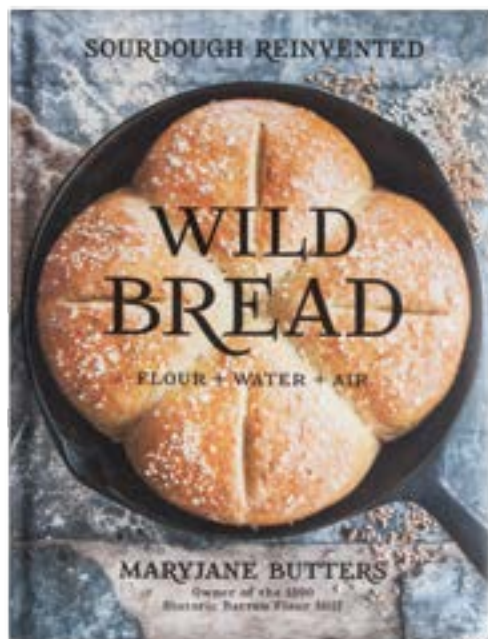
### ***Please Don't Feed the Mayor***

by Sue Pethick

How can anyone resist a book cover that features a dog with a day job as a necktie-wearing politician? After the local lumber mill shuts down, the small town of Fossett, Oregon, is drowning in economic hardship, and most of its residents are left with zero job prospects. Desperate for a way to save the town she loves, coffee-shop owner Melanie MacDonald and her border collie, Shep, turn to local politics. This heartening and hilarious novel uniquely expresses the many wonderful ways dogs and humans are different ... as well as how we're alike. It's a testament to the kind of humor, heart, and unconditional love that a dog can bring to some of the most difficult situations.







# WILD BREAD

FLOUR + WATER + AIR

Is the world ready to rethink bread making? I certainly think so. My book, *Wild Bread*, completely reinvents the concept of healthier-for-you, naturally fermented sourdough. Until now, sourdough meant too much work and sour-tasting, artisan-style-only loaves. My revolutionary fermentation technique demonstrates the use of eight different types of flours for each bread featured—everything from gluten-free brown-rice flour to quinoa to common white to heirloom whole wheat—for a whopping 295 recipes and 475 photographs. Using my method, every style of bread imaginable, including gluten free, will loft with wild abandon without the purchase of a single packet of not-so-healthy, store-bought yeast. In nutritionally superior wild-yeast bread, fermentation triggers the release of vital nutrients and breaks down carbohydrates. In my world, there's no such thing as too much bread because once you convert to slow-rise wild-bread making, that bagel you've been thinking about is more like a vitamin pill than a source of "carb-loaded" guilt.

**FIRST MONTH**  
1 minute 2 x day  
**BAKE**  
1 x week

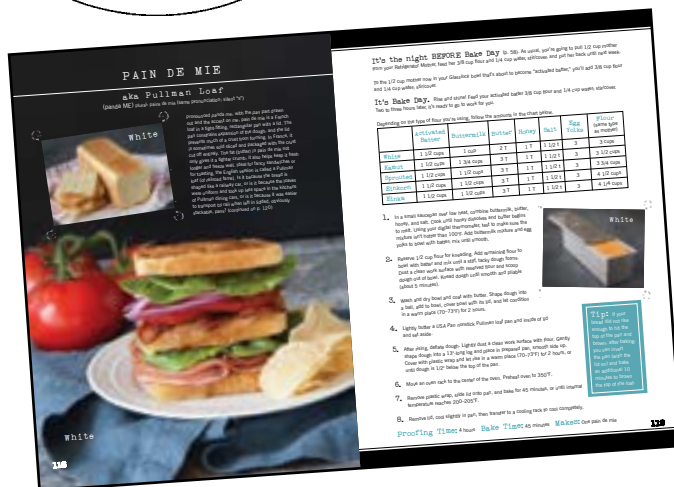
**ONGOING**  
1 minute 1 x week  
**BAKE** (at least)  
1 x month

MaryJane

**224 PAGES**  
295 recipes, 475 color photos

Autographed  
copies available  
at  
[MaryJanesFarm.org](http://MaryJanesFarm.org)  
**\$24.99**

**5-STAR  
ONLINE REVIEW:**  
*Wild Bread* is not just a gorgeous gallery of photos—it is a fully functional and fabulously **USEFUL** guide to mastering the art of wild-bread baking.



## SOURDOUGH REINVENTED





**It's the night BEFORE Bake Day** (p. 58). As usual, you're going to pull 1/2 cup mother from your Refrigerator Mother, feed her 3/8 cup flour and 1/4 cup water, stir/cover, and put her back until next week, and 1/4 cup water, stir/cover.

**It's Bake Day.** Rise and shine! Feed your activated batter 3/8 cup flour and 1/4 cup water; stir/cover. Two to three hours later, it's ready to go to work for you.

Depending on the type of flour you're using, follow the amounts in the chart below:

	Activated Batter	Water	Salt	Flour (same type as mother)	Top Dough
White	1 1/2 cups	1 cup	1 1/2 t	2 3/4-3 1/4 cups	1 cup
Kamut	1 1/2 cups	1 cup	1 1/2 t	2 1/4-2 3/4 cups	1 cup
Einkorn	1 1/2 cups	1 cup	1 1/2 t	2 1/2-3 cups	1 cup
Spinkys	1 1/2 cups	1 cup	1 1/2 t	4 3/4-5 1/4 cups	1 cup
Spinkys	1 1/2 cups	1 cup	1 1/2 t	4-4 1/2 cups	1 cup

- To the batter in your bowl, add water and salt; mix well. Starting with the smallest amount of flour in the chart, reserve 1 cup of it for kneading and add the rest of it to the bowl with the batter; mix until a stiff, tacky dough forms. Let rest 5 minutes.
- Do a clean work surface with reserved flour and scoop dough out of bowl. As you begin to work in the reserved cooking oil to prevent dough from sticking to your hands. If dough is still too sticky after reserved flour has been worked in, begin working in another 1/2 cup of flour. Continue to knead until dough is smooth, pliable, and slightly tacky (about 8 minutes).
- Wash and dry bowl and coat with safflower oil. Shape dough into a ball and add to bowl. Cover bowl with its lid and let rest in a warm place (70-73°F) for 30 minutes.
- After 30 minutes, remove lid. Starting at the edge of the bowl, lift a portion of the dough toward the center of the bowl using a bowl scraper. Rotate the bowl, lift another portion, and fold it toward the center. Repeat until all edges have been folded toward the center (6-8 total folds). Cover bowl with lid and let rest again in a warm place (70-73°F) for 30 minutes. Repeat foldrest two more times. Now, you're done with the folding process that conditions the dough so it rises well (step 8).
- After the last 30 minutes, lightly dust a clean work surface with flour and scoop dough from bowl using the bowl scraper. Divide dough into 3 equal portions and stretch each portion into a 4" x 16" rectangle. Starting from the uniform rope, pinch seams to seal. Tuck ends of the rope under to create a (facing page)
- Before bread finishes its 45-minute rise, move an oven rack to the center of the oven and another to the bottom. Place an enameled cast-iron Dutch oven on the bottom rack. Preheat oven to 425°F.
- Put rope halves into oven. Add ice cubes to enameled cast-iron Dutch oven. (Why? See p. 216.)
- Bake for 25 minutes, or until internal temperature reaches 190°F. Remove from oven and transfer to a cooling rack.

**Proofing Time:** 2 hours, 45 minutes **Bake Time:** 25 minutes **Make:** Three 15" loaves

**EPI**

6. Line an inverted baker's sheet with parchment paper. Roll a single rope onto a saucy board and transfer to prepared baking sheet, seam side facing down. Stretch rope on baking sheet. Repeat this process with remaining portions of dough.



7. Using kitchen shears, make a 45° angled cut at the top of a rope, leaving the back of the rope intact (about 1/2" up from the bottom). Turn cut piece to the left and make another 45° cut. At the time, turn cut piece to the right.

8. Continue making cuts and turning cut pieces in alternating directions. Once all ropes have been cut, cover en loaves with a flour-sack cotton towel and let rise for 45 minutes.

**Einkorn**

85



C O N T E N T S	
Author's Note	11
Preface	12
Section 1	
Beginner Breads	20
Section 2	
Advanced Breads	56
Section 3	
Quick & Easy Sourdough-Enhanced Treats	172
Quick-and-easy treats, everything from panbread bites to muffins to pancakes to doughnuts.	
	Einkorn (heirloom wheat)
	Bread-Machine Kamut (heirloom whole wheat)



Section 4  
**Let's Talk Flour** 190

Section 5  
**Equipment** 200

Find it, buy it! Not all equipment, cookware, and tools are created equal. Lean in for the lowdown. Also, gift ideas.

Question & Answer 214  
Acknowledgments 221  
Index 222  
About the Author 224



Quinoa (gluten free)



# New & Renewing Sisterhood Members

Big welcome to our new and renewing Sisterhood members!

Alice Minasian  
Amber Jennings  
Andrea Lohf  
Ann Haas  
Anna Cook  
Arlene Gallegos  
Ashley Montague  
Ashley Wasia  
Audra Silva  
Barbara Roberts  
Becky Gilson  
Becky Iannaccone  
Beth Ballantyne  
Beth Lively  
Betsy Cronin  
Betty Fudala  
Beverly Christman  
Brittany Flores  
Brook Shepherd  
Candace Kage  
Carol Elaine Deys  
Carole Prevost-Meier  
Catherine Vosseteig  
Celia M. Pauls  
Cheryl Small  
Cheryl Lilly  
Cheryl Fiske  
Christina Via  
Christina Dzeskewicz  
Christine Wolfe  
Cindi Johnson  
Cindy Kinion  
Cindy Steed  
Colleen Gotori  
Connie McCaffery  
Cristy Marxsen  
Cynthia Cahilig

Cynthia Mangum  
Daizy Bailes  
Dale Ann Staggs  
Darla Armstrong  
Darla Blacconeri  
Dawn Hoelzle  
Deanna Hart  
Deborah Geise  
Deborah Hug  
Deborah McComb  
Debra Stout Tewalt  
Deidre Collette  
Denice Kimball  
Diane Van Horn  
Donna Lettsome  
Donna Rich  
Donna Lees-Kennedy  
Dorothy J Sparks  
Edie Wray  
Elaine Vaughan  
Elisabeth Perkins  
Emilie Wacker  
Emily Race  
Gaynelle Rose  
Gene Marie Callahan  
Ginger Loudon  
Heather Neeper  
Heather Tobin  
Heather Giusti  
Heidi Schaap  
Helen Reynolds  
Holly Kirkland  
Jan Steinbock  
Janet Coomes  
Janet Mahala  
Janet Doran  
Janie Edwards

Jean Pruett  
Jeanne Kaminski  
Jennifer Chappell  
Jennifer Gabris  
Jenny Lamb  
Jill Lokke  
Jill Tatum  
Jill May  
Jo Defeyer  
Joanne Shepherd  
Joanne Terwilliger  
Joyce Danopuk  
Joyce Hein  
Joyce Thompson  
Joyce Hellenga Himebaugh  
Judith Miller  
Judy Curtis  
Judy Jones-McCown  
Judy Van Hooser  
Judy Weichbrodt  
Judy Caron  
Julia Vermeulen  
Julia Garnant  
Julie Deane  
Karen Price  
Karla Hendricks  
Kate O'Brien  
Kathryn Cartier

“A true friend  
reaches for your  
hand and touches  
your heart.”

– Author Unknown





continued ...

Kathryn Saucedo  
Kathy Rogers  
Kelley Mills  
Kim Benham  
Kimberley  
Bartholomew  
Kimberly Nelson  
Kimberly Calvert  
Kristi Teague  
Kyla Lenze  
Larranie Gonsalves  
Laura Burke  
Laurie Keenan  
Lea Vollmer  
Leanne Phillips  
Leslie Oloughlin  
Linda Willett  
Linda Ferry  
Linda Robinson  
Linda S. Larson  
Lois Bennett  
Lori Beck  
Lorraine Block  
Lucinda Reinke  
Marcia Good  
Margaret Schwanebeck  
Maria Baer  
Marlene Burns  
Marlene Laverty  
Marlene Cryar  
Marsha Lee  
Marti Johnson  
Mary Vono  
Mary Murray  
Mary Jean Lorigo  
Mary DeStaffany  
Mary Roberts  
Mary Grace Almleaf

McKensey Wise  
Megan Rady  
Melanie Henry  
Melinda M. Owen  
Melissa Havemann  
Melody Hingl  
Michelle Coomes  
Michelle Aalbu  
Miranda Smoke  
Miss Irene Cecilia  
Falcomer  
Monica Huber  
Nancy Marshall  
Nancy Cook  
Nancy Marcellino  
Nancy Collins-Jabas  
Nancy Kinder  
Nikki Hurlbut  
Noelle Miller  
Norma Santiago  
Pamela Bergmann  
Pamela Mahoney-Potts  
Pamela Sanford  
Patricia Krejca  
Patsy Baker  
Patty Woodhurst  
Paula Dabel  
Peggy Ann Smith  
Penny Dyke  
Penny Umstattd-Cope  
Rebecca Strauss  
Rebecca Alvarez  
Rebecca Spohn  
Rebekkah Del Prado  
Robin Morningstar  
Rosemarie Malizia  
Ruby Slider  
Sallie Dee Walker

Sandra Gold  
Sandra McKinnon  
Sandra McCarter  
Sandy Chase  
Sara Nevill  
Sarah Blasier-McCollum  
Shannon Burkemper  
Sharron Molder  
Sheila Johnston  
Sheri Lynn Simmons  
Sherry Buck  
Shirley Davis  
Stephania Papi  
Susan Whitakerhill  
Susan Marty  
Susi Ratliff  
Tammy Duletzke  
Tanya Murphy  
Terri Mallory  
Terri Brock  
Terry Steinmetz  
Tina Eyraud  
Tracy Gearing Conte  
Victoria L. Wallace  
Victoria Donnenberg  
Virginia Martin  
Wanda Curtis  
Wanda Owen  
Zoe Siperly



“Be a  
rainbow in  
someone  
else’s cloud.”

– Maya Angelou





# New Merit Badges



## 2019 New Merit Badges

### *Each Other: Differing Abilities*

#### **Beginner Level**

- The object of this badge is to eschew marginalization and embrace inclusiveness. Adopt a vocabulary that reflects this attitude. For more information, visit <https://adata.org/factsheet/ADANN-writing>.
- Become aware of people in your community who are dealing with disabilities. Share with us some permanent and temporary conditions you learned about that can make it challenging to carry out daily activities.

#### **Intermediate Level**

- Identify whether places in your community that say they are accessible are functional for people with disabilities. If not, what further modifications could be made to make these areas accessible?
- Identify areas in your own home that might be difficult to use if someone in your family were injured.
- Do you know a person who is living with medical conditions that challenge them? How can you make them feel more welcome?
- How does what you've learned affect how you react to people around you who might need assistance?

#### **Expert Level**

- Make a change in your home or in someone else's home that will make it more accessible. This could be as elaborate as putting in a ramp, or as simple as installing grab bars in a shower or bathtub.
- Share what you've accomplished and how it's helped someone around you. Take photos to share, if possible.



### *Make It Easy: Leatherworking*

#### **Beginner Level**

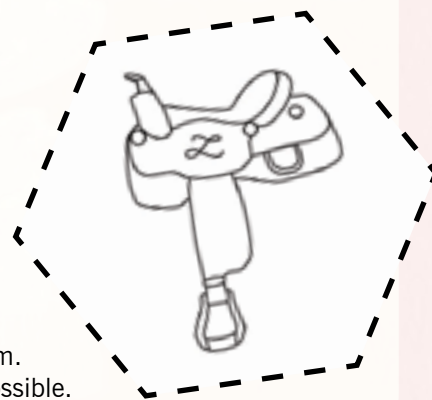
- Research leatherworking tools and supplies and their uses. What is an awl blade used for? Which tools are best for cutting leather? What type of cutting mat is best?
- Share with us the types of leatherworking projects you'd like to do and which tools you'll need to complete your desired projects.
- Learn about the best ways to maintain your leatherworking tools.

#### **Intermediate Level**

- Research tanning and finishing methods and the results of each. What's the difference between tooling veg-tan and milled veg-tan?
- Learn about leather weights and the types of projects different weights are used for.
- Research the fundamentals of working with leather. What is stamping? What is casing leather? What is the best way to store your project when you aren't working on it?
- Learn about the best ways to care for and maintain leather goods.

#### **Expert Level**

- Make a leatherworking project you'll find useful day-to-day. Examples include, but aren't limited to: gloves, wallet, purse, or horse tack.
- Share your project and what you learned in the process with your farmgirl Chapter or on the chatroom. Take photos to share, if possible.







## Little Miss Merit Badge Salutes You!

MaryJane,

You do so much for the enjoyment and empowerment of others—thank you. I appreciate your publications, cookbooks, and outlook! Especially pleased that you started a Merit Badge program, in honor of which I would like to share my memoir with you as a token and thank you.

Badge On!  
Ronda Beaman

Dr. Ronda Beaman  
CCO, Peak Learning, Inc.  
Founder and Executive Director, Dream Makers SLO  
Clinical Professor, Orfalea College of Business  
Author, *Little Miss Merit Badge* and *You're Only Young Twice*  
Speaker, TEDx: <https://youtu.be/afeyUkLpC3w> (*Hokey Pokey and the Meaning of Life*)





# Annie Oakley

## Inspired



### Annie Up, Sisters!

Always on the prowl for something playful, I can't resist displaying my Farmgirl Sisterhood Merit Badges the same way Annie Oakley shared her prowess.

A household name when I was growing up, Annie, born in Ohio in 1860, is one of the best-known figures of the Old West. But what did I really KNOW about the back story of the famous Miss Oakley, other than whenever I hit a target dead-center, my father, a man of many guns, would say, "Good job, Annie!" Vaguely, I knew she was a skilled sharpshooter who traveled the vaudeville circuit at the turn of the century.

What I didn't know was that at the age of 9, her Pennsylvania Quaker father died and she and her siblings were sent to an orphanage (known back then as "the county poor farm"). She was able to rejoin her mother at the age of 13, hunting quail and rabbits for food, something she'd been doing since she was 6 years old. Like a modern-day entrepreneur, Annie talked local restaurants and hotels into buying the game she shot. By the time she was 15, she had paid off the mortgage on her mother's farm.

Already becoming famous by the age of 21, she signed up for a sharpshooter contest against the traveling show marksman Francis Butler. When he couldn't best her, they instead married.

Less than five feet tall and weighing roughly 100 pounds, she wore fringed skirts, embroidered blouses, and a variety of felt hats. She began her show by standing on a galloping horse and shooting the flames off a revolving wheel of candles. In one of her acts, Annie flipped a playing card into the air and perforated it five or six times as it fell—thus, any punched ticket, like a theatre ticket punched with a hole to prevent it from being resold, has traditionally been called an "Annie Oakley." I've finally solved the mystery of why my father called his hole-punched decks of playing cards his "Annie Oakleys."

Annie continued to set records into her 60s, but she was also involved in women's rights issues and charitable causes, giving most of her money away, in particular to young women that she personally mentored. Throughout her career, Annie not only taught thousands of women how to shoot (and hold their heads high), but she also filed lawsuits against male newspaper magnates that libeled her. In the early 1900s, sensational stories sold well, so Annie was accused of everything from a cocaine habit to theft to prostitution. She spent years winning all but one of 55 libel suits, collecting less in judgments than her legal fees. But for Annie, defending a woman's reputation justified the loss of money.





## Girls can't what?

Using a .22 caliber rifle  
at 90 feet, Annie could split a  
playing card in half and put  
five or six more holes in it  
before it touched  
the ground!



## continued ...

In 1922, two years after women won the right to vote, Annie was injured in a railroad accident, suffering paralysis, but fully recovered after enduring several painful surgeries. In 1924, she was again setting records, and in a contest in North Carolina, she hit 100 clay targets from 16 yards.

Madly in love with Annie throughout their marriage, her husband, Frank Butler, was so distraught when Annie died at the age of 66 in 1926 from pernicious anemia, he stopped eating and died 18 days later.

"Annie Get Your Gun," a fictionalized version of Annie and Frank's lives, became an Irving Berlin Broadway hit in 1946, with Ethel Merman as Annie, and then again in 1999, starring Reba McEntire.

*Mary Jane* 

**Be an Annie Oakley  
in your own right,  
flaunting merit  
badge couture.**

See how I created my Annie Oakley  
Sisterhood Merit Badge couture on the  
following pages.

*"After traveling through  
14 foreign countries  
and appearing before all the royalty  
and nobility, I have only  
one wish today...  
that when my eyes are closed in  
death, they will bury me back in that  
quiet little farmland  
where I was born."*

— Annie Oakley



Annie at the age  
of 62 in 1922





# Merit Badge Jewelry



Farmgirl sisters and their children have earned over 10,886 merit badges to date (see a complete list of our Merit Badge Awardees at [FarmgirlSisterhood.org](http://FarmgirlSisterhood.org)). Not only are their meritorious accomplishments given public accolades here in the *Sister Issue* and on our chatroom, but they're also given a link to a printable 4-inch badge specific to every accomplishment. (Some farmgirls have even earned the "sharpshooter" designation for earning more than 200 badges!) Typically printed on muslin and then stitched to jackets or shoulder bags, made into wall hangings, or sometimes quilts, I'm thinking there might be other sisters, like me, who want to turn their badge insignias into necklaces, bracelets, chest medals, ring or earring signets, or even aglets and stamped straps!

Here's how I did it. Using a few basic jewelry tools, the Internet, and a visit to my local craft store, I took my badges (that arrive in an e-mail when earned/approved) and sized them down. You can size your badges yourself using this step-by-step process, or take your jpeg files to your local copy shop and have them do it for you. If you have other ideas on how you like to resize and color your badges, feel free to share your ideas on our **Farmgirl Connection™ Chatroom**.

1. Download your jpeg badge file, right-click (PC) or command-click (Mac) the image, then choose "Save Picture As..." or "Save Image As..." Save them to your computer somewhere you can find them again (like the desktop).
2. My design team knew how to color them on the computer using Paint or Photoshop, but when left to my own devices, colored pencils worked just fine. I left many of mine black and white, aiming for that vintage, somewhat industrial, frugal, farmish look.
3. Open Microsoft Word.
4. Click "Insert," "Picture," "From File," and select the badge image to insert.
5. Select one of the corners of the badge image. Using Word's rulers for size reference (under toolbars), resize your badge the desired amount by clicking, holding, and dragging.
6. If you make a mistake while resizing, simply hit the "Reset Picture" button on the picture editing toolbar and start over ("View," "Toolbars," "Picture").
7. To make a circle cutting template around your badge you will need to again select "View," "Toolbars," "Drawing." Select the oval shape, and while holding your shift key down, drag until the circle is the correct size for your badge. Click the paint bucket on the drawing toolbar while your circle is selected, and click "no fill" to make your badge visible through the circle.
9. Print and enjoy!





continued ...



For Scrabble tiles, I found the best quality and most reliable gear on **Etsy**. First, I brushed the paper badge with a thin layer of matte-finish Mod Podge to seal the paper, then I let it dry. You will use Mod Podge for all of these jewelry crafting projects; it works as both a glue and a sealer. Next I cut out my paper badge insignia and brushed the blank side of the Scrabble tile with Mod Podge and placed the paper badge onto it, gently working out any air bubbles with my bone folder (find at your local craft store.) After it dried, I placed a self-adhesive square epoxy dome on top of the badge insignia and used a bone folder to remove the air bubbles. Next, I glued a metal bail (see left) on the lettered side using a 24-hour clear epoxy. Finally, I attached it to my chain necklace using a jump ring.

Bone Folder



For smaller, round bezel cups (my favorite), I turned to scrapbooking supplies for the most economical source. Idea-ology™ "Type Charms" (the stickers that come in the package look like typewriter keys, but I used my badge insignias instead) are sold in packages of 16 that include self-adhesive round epoxy domes that insert into each cup and sell for around \$8 (50¢ each). Available at **Michael's** or **online here**.

I think the 1/2" diameter size of this charm is good because of the price and availability. Soon, we'll all be *charming*! (You can go a more expensive route using bezel cups made from sterling silver and filled with liquid clear casting epoxy. You can **purchase supplies here**, or **Google** "sterling bezel cups.")

Sterling Silver Bezel Cup



continued ...



continued ...



Look to **Jill Schwartz** for a line of jewelry embellishments for adding non-badge charms to your necklace. I used a variety of charms from her line, as well as Industrial Chic, Lost & Found, Pearls & Pumps, Bella Boho, Forged, Blue Moon, and Black Lace. If you haven't discovered the jewelry aisle in your local craft store yet, head on out. There may be other lines or new lines available online or in stores near you.



Picking through the above lines of jewelry makings, I also Mod Podged my badge insignias onto any flat surface I could find, adjusting the size accordingly. I even used a locket from the Industrial Chic line for my main hexagonal Sisterhood Badge (inside are photos of my grandchildren). Note the cool safety pins you can buy that don't have the bottom double curl.



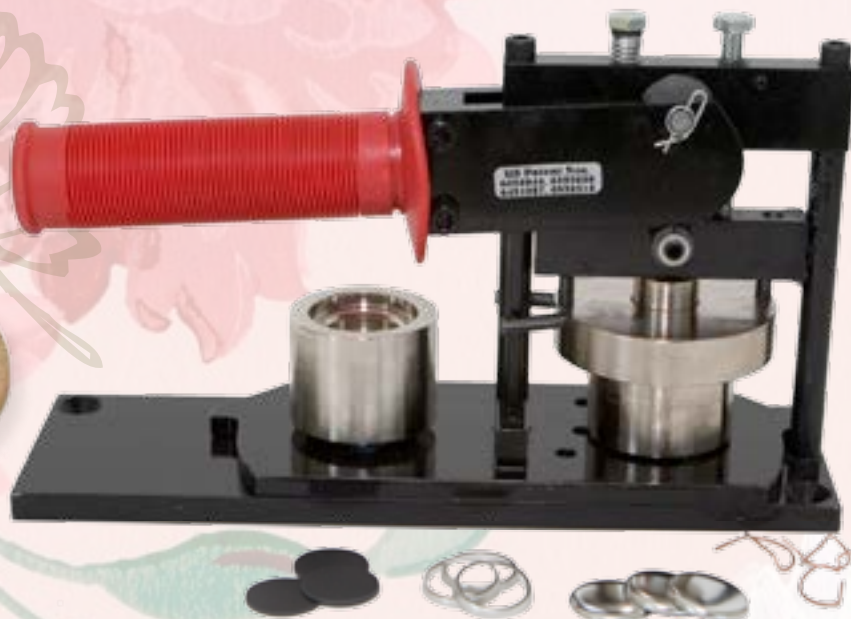


continued ...

Or buy a button-making machine.



Merit Badge Buttons



Industrial Chic's ring blank didn't come with a self-adhesive resin dome, so I picked up some EasyCast to make my own. First, I followed the Mod Podge steps and gave the badge an extra coat to protect it from losing color and let it dry. I chose a well-ventilated area and covered the surface I was working on with wax paper. Next, I put on gloves and eye protection. Following the EasyCast instructions that come with the kit, I mixed my EasyCast and poured it into a squeezable condiment bottle with a spout (like a mustard container). I put the ring upright in a vice and gently squeezed the EasyCast onto my "bee kind to mother earth" badge that was nestled inside. (If you don't have a vise, you could use a bowl of uncooked rice or make jigs out of foam-core board or styrofoam.) Lastly, I covered the ring with a box while the EasyCast was hardening to protect it and followed the EasyCast instructions for proper clean up.







# Farmgirl Lending Library

Along with our new badges for 2019, don't forget to take advantage of our lending library when a particular badge requires the reading of a book. We ship them to you using Media Mail and you ship them back when you're done. Remember to use Media Mail (it's much more economical).

*MaryJane*, Sister #1

## Sister and Farmerette Badges Reading List

### *Each Other:*

Public Service (Expert): Read *Free Lunch* by David Cay Johnston.

Farmgirl Gratitude (Beginner): Read *The Book of Awesome* by Neil Pasricha.

Farmgirl Shutterbugs (Intermediate): Read a basic book on photography techniques.

Farmgirl Shutterbugs (Expert): Read a current book on advanced photography techniques.

Farmgirl Grammar (Intermediate): Read *Woe Is I: The Grammarphobe's Guide to Better English in Plain English* by Patricia T. O'Conner.

Farmgirl Grammar (Expert): Read *Eats, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation* by Lynne Truss.

Blogging (Beginner): Read *Blogging for Creatives: How Designers, Artists, Crafters, and Writers Can Blog to Make Contacts, Win Business, and Build Success* by Robin Houghton.

Reading, 'Riting, 'Rythmatic (Expert): Read *Math Doesn't Suck* by Danica McKellar.

### *Farm Kitchen:*

Know Your Food (Beginner): Read *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver.

Know Your Food (Intermediate): Read *Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan.

Know Your Food (Expert): Read *In Defense of Food* by Michael Pollan.





Check us out!

## continued ...

Icing on the Cake (Beginner): Read *Wilton 902-1232 Cake Decorating for Beginners Guide* or take a cake decorating class.

Carpe Cocoa: Seize the Chocolate! (Beginner): Read *The True History of Chocolate* by Sophie D. Coe and Michael D. Coe.

### Garden Gate:

Bee Good to Your Mother Earth (Beginner): Read *Montrose: Life in a Garden* by Nancy Goodwin.

Grow Where You're Planted (Expert): Read *Roots Demystified: Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots* by Robert Kourik.

Gaining Ground (Beginner): Read *The Earth Moved* by Amy Stewart or *Worms Eat My Garbage* by Mary Appelhof.

Gaining Ground (Expert): Read *Secrets to Great Soil: A Grower's Guide to Composting, Mulching, and Creating Healthy, Fertile Soil for Your Lawn and Garden* by Elizabeth P. Stell.

Heirlooms Forever (Beginner): Read *Gardening with Heirloom Seeds* by Lynn Coulter.

What's Your Beef? (Intermediate): Read *BEEF: The Untold Story of How Milk, Meat, and Muscle Shaped the World* by Andrew Rimas and Evan D.G. Fraser.

Horse Dreams (Intermediate): Read *The Soul of a Horse: Life Lessons* by Joe Camp.

Secret Life of Bees (Beginner): Read *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd

Secret Life of Bees (Intermediate): Read *Bees: Nature's Little Wonders* by Candace Savage.

### Make It Easy:

Carp-hen-try (Beginner): Read *Dare to Repair* by Julie Sussman and Stephanie Glakastenet.

### Outpost:

Glamping (Intermediate): Read *Glamping with MaryJane* by MaryJane Butters.

continued ...

25





continued ...

### *Stitching & Crafting:*

Scrapbooking (Intermediate): Read chapters 1, 3, and 11 of *Saving Stuff: How to Care for and Preserve Your Collectibles, Heirlooms, and Other Prized Possessions* by Don Williams and Louisa Jaggard.

Scrapbooking (Expert): Read *Organizing and Preserving Your Heirloom Documents* by Katherine Scott Sturdevant.

Inkslinger (Beginner): Read *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk Jr.

## Young Cultivator Badge Reading List

### *Farm Kitchen:*

Mmm, Chocolate! (Beginner) Read "Smart About Chocolate" by Sandra Markle, and "No Monkeys, No Chocolate" and "Chocolate: Riches from the Rainforest" by Robert Burleigh.

Mmm, Chocolate! (Expert) Read "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" by Anthony Newley.









# Sisterhood Necklace



## Exclusive for Sisters!

### Sisterhood Necklace

We've partnered with Elaine Tolson of Washington to offer this lovely bit of vintage-style jewelry—for Sisterhood members only. Your necklace will be emblazoned with your own unique Sisterhood number, setting your braggin' rights in stone. Whether you wear it as a secret code for those in-the-know, or as a conversation starter about the Sisterhood, is up to you. **Click [here](#) to order yours.**



Hello Elaine!

Thank you so much for my beautiful charm. I received it last week and have enjoyed wearing it and showing it to my friends and family. Can't wait to get our Chapter off the ground here in Cherry Valley.

Thank you again,  
Mary Bronson



Elaine!!!

Thank you so very much for the beautiful Farm Gal necklace!!! I beyond love it! I really feel part of something grander when I wear it. You made my day when I opened my little burlap bag, truly.

Kindness counts,  
Kim







There is this necklace that I wear,  
It rests right below my heart.  
Me and this dear trinket  
Don't spend much time apart.

It's not made of gold or silver  
Or adorned with precious gems,  
The design is pure and simple  
Unlike the meaning held within.

It matches everything I wear  
From my bibs to Sunday's best.  
And it's not until I put it on  
That I feel fully dressed.

It's a plaything for the children  
Who sit upon my lap,  
And ask question after question  
Like an ever-flowing tap.

"Where'd you get your necklace?"  
"Who's the lady with the hat?"  
"What's it mean to be a Farmgirl?"  
Now, I can answer that!

Maybe not in just one word  
Or even three or four.  
To explain the farmgirl life  
Will take a little more.

A farmgirl is a gentle soul  
Filled with grace but then,  
She has an inner strength  
More than a thousand men.

She has many, many sisters  
Much more than she can count.  
And they are always on the ready  
To help each other out.

She has a 'can-do' spirit  
With every task at hand.  
And she feels a true connection  
To the earth and to its land.

A farmgirl likes the simple things  
The wholesome, clean and pure,  
But if the need arises  
She can be quite the connoisseur!

You may find her dressed in work clothes,  
And of course, a wide brimmed hat.  
But she'll add a pretty apron  
To go on top of that.

She doesn't have to be a farmer  
Or even live upon a farm.  
She can be a city dweller  
And still have that farmgirl charm.

It's not a fancy title  
That sets us all apart,  
For every farmgirl knows  
It's a condition of the heart.

So, this necklace that I wear  
Is a badge of honor you might say,  
For it makes me proud to show  
That I live the farmgirl way.

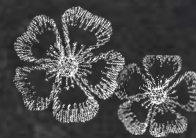
~Wendy Cecil Curling



# Stitching & Crafting Room



Stitches of Fun & Laughter!



{STITCHING & CRAFTING} with Megan Rae | to earn a Sisterhood badge in this category, [CLICK HERE](#)



Dori Troutman is the daughter of second-generation cattle ranchers in New Mexico. She grew up working and playing on the ranch that her grandparents homesteaded in 1928. That ranch, with the old adobe home, is still in the family today. Dori and her husband always yearned for a ranch of their own. That dream came true when they retired to the beautiful green rolling hills of Tennessee. Truly a cattleman's paradise!

Dori loves all things farmgirl and actually has known no other life but that. She loves to cook, craft, garden, and help with any and all things on their cattle farm.

## Heart Coaster Tutorial

I don't know about you, but I love Valentine's Day! And it's coming up soon. I love to send little gifts to a few of my friends, and what better gift than a home-sewn one? This is a fast project that's perfect for using little fabric scraps. Let's get started ...

(TIP: It's just as easy to make two of these coasters as it is to make one. Just cut double the amount of fabric scraps.)

### *You'll need:*

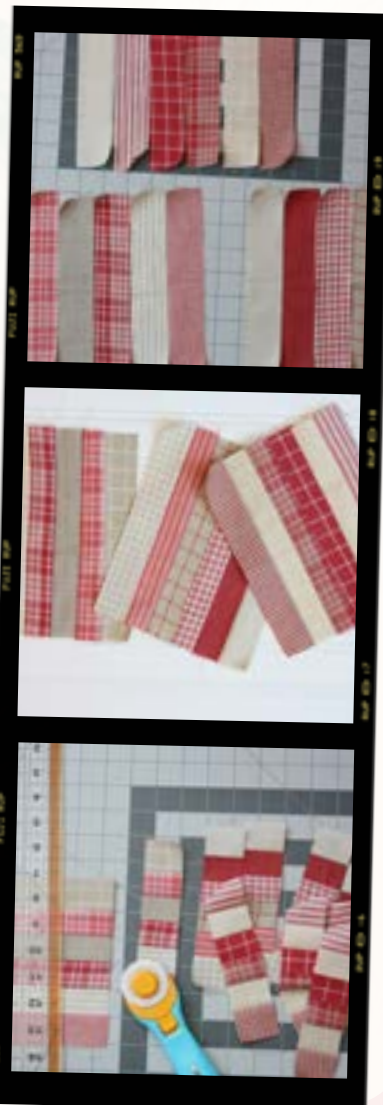
- Sewing Machine
- Scissors
- Fabric Pen
- Rotary Cutter and Mat
- Fabric Scraps (18 different scraps in 1 1/2" widths and 4" lengths)
- Fabric Scrap, 8" square
- Fusible Fleece, 8" square
- small pieces of lace or other trim for optional embellishment
- a heart-shaped pattern approximately 6" wide at the widest point and about 6" tall (I just drew mine freehand)

**Step One:** Iron your fabric scraps. Lay your strips of fabric into three sets of six strips each.

**Step Two:** Sew each set of strips right sides together with a 1/4" seam. You will now have three blocks of strips sewn together. Iron carefully with all seams going in the same direction.

**Step Three:** Place each block of strips on the cutting mat and carefully cut them into 1 1/2" segments. You should now have six strips of little squares. Carefully iron each the strips so the seams are going in the same direction.

**Step Four:** Lay those strips out, moving them around as necessary until you get the desired look for your final block.







continued ...

**Step Five:** Place the top strip right sides together with the one below it, pin all seams in place, and sew with a 1/4" seam allowance. Press seam flat and sew the next strip in the same way. Continue until all 6 strips of squares are sewn together, forming a block consisting of thirty-six 1 1/2" squares.

**Step Six:** Press the block very carefully and iron it to the 8" piece of fusible fleece. Trim the fleece to the same size as the block. With a ruler and a fabric pen, mark your desired quilting lines.

**Step Seven:** Machine quilt along the lines that you have drawn. Place your 8" fabric square and your quilted piece together. Take your heart-shaped pattern and pin in place. Carefully cut around the pattern and through all thicknesses of the fabric.

**Step Eight:** If you desire to embellish your quilted piece, you can do that now. Remember, this is a coaster, so you don't want to embellish with things that will make it unstable for placing a cup on it. I used a flat piece of vintage lace. Sew your embellishment in place to the quilted piece.

**Step Nine:** Place your heart backing and your quilted piece right sides together and pin. Sew 1/4" seam all the way around, leaving a small opening along the side for turning.

**Step Ten:** Turn your heart right side out, smooth the edges, and carefully iron the edges of the opening to the inside of the heart. Hand-stitch that little opening closed. Press flat.

Your little heart coaster is finished and ready for using or gifting.





# Farmgirl Sisterhood

## Merit Badge Awardees

### Merit Badge Awardees

**Click here to  
read about Merit  
Badge awardees.**

**Aidan Murphy: aidanm #7664**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Bread Making

**Ann Gee: #7351**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting

**Ann Socolofsky: #7692**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Grammar

**Allyson Wolf: Goodmedicine Girls #7693**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Community Service

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Homespun Christmas

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Mosaics

**Candace Kage: Candy Kage #7495**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Know Your Roots

**Christina Burnham: Countrygirlsinabur #7305**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / UFOs

**Debbie Klann: debbieklann #770**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Green Energy

Beginner badge: Each Other / Calligraphy

Beginner badge: Each Other / Lend a Hand to Farm Families

Beginner badge: Each Other / Public Service

Beginner badge: Each Other / Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rythmatic

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Cheesemaking

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Palate Pleasers

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Putting Away for Winter

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Weather

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch

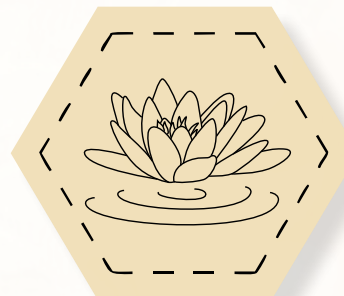
Beginner badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around

Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Build It Green

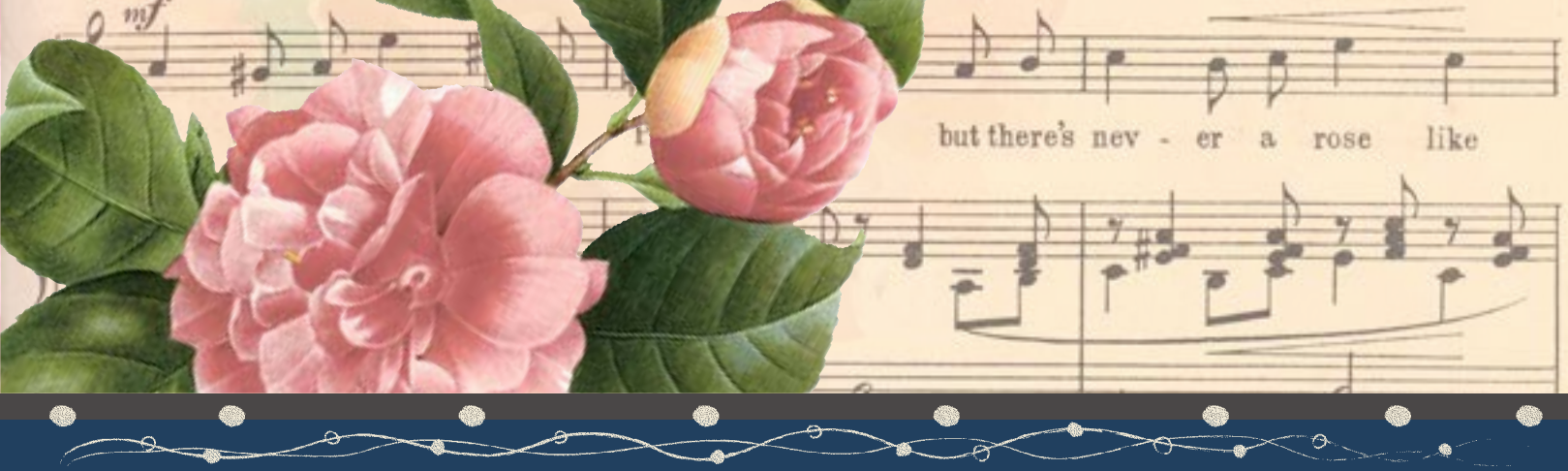
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Candlesmaking

Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Carp-hen-try

Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Emergency Preparedness







## continued ...

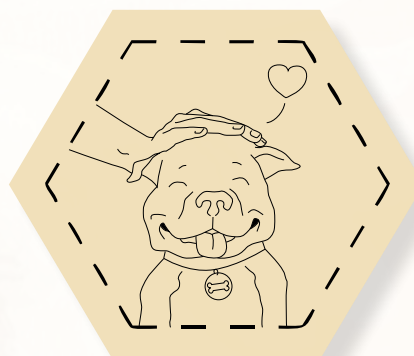
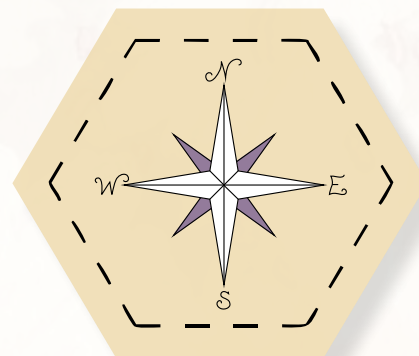
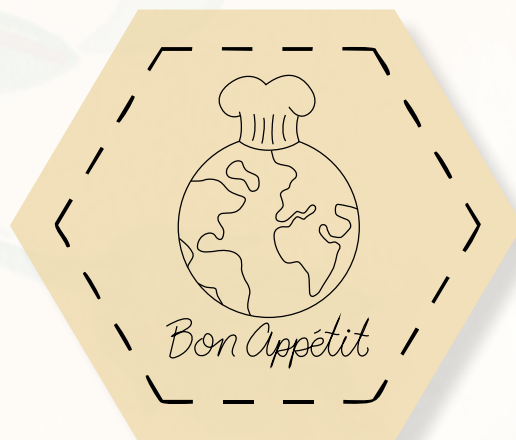
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Grease Chicks  
 Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Jewelry Making  
 Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Green Energy  
 Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
 Intermediate badge: Each Other / Lend a Hand to Farm Families  
 Intermediate badge: Each Other / Public Service  
 Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Palate Pleasers  
 Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Putting Away for Winter  
 Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Weather  
 Intermediate badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around  
 Intermediate badge: Outpost / Rocks and Minerals  
 Intermediate badge: Outpost / Speak for the Trees  
 Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch  
 Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Grease Chicks  
 Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Jewelry Making  
 Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Mindfulness Meditation  
 Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green  
 Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Green Energy  
 Expert badge: Each Other / Community Service  
 Expert badge: Each Other / Lend a Hand to Farm Families  
 Expert badge: Each Other / Public Service  
 Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Palate Pleasers  
 Expert badge: Garden Gate / Putting Away for Winter  
 Expert badge: Garden Gate / Weather  
 Expert badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around  
 Expert badge: Outpost / Rocks and Minerals  
 Expert badge: Outpost / Speak for the Trees  
 Expert badge: Make It Easy / Mindfulness Meditation

### Emily Yost: emilyrosebud #5070

Beginner badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
 Intermediate badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
 Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Scrapbooking  
 Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Homespun Christmas

### Ginger Thielman: Gingert #7567

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Bee Good to Your Mother Earth  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Gaining Ground  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Heirlooms Forever!  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / What's Your Beef?



continued ...

33





## continued ...

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Horse Dreams  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Putting Away for Winter  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / The Good, Bad, and Ugly ... Bugs  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Weather  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Birds  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Grow Where You're Planted  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / 3 R's Rule (Reuse, Recycle, Revive!)

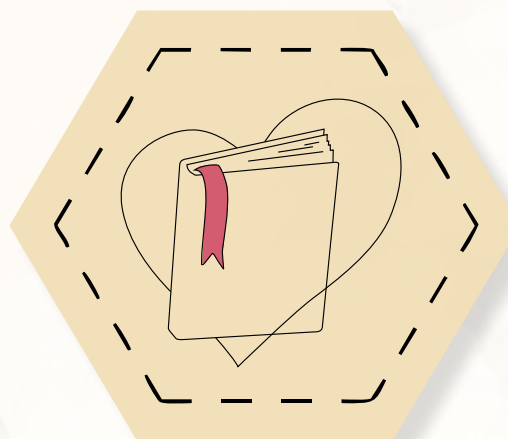


### **Heather Majernik: FarmMom #5518**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
 Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
 Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Mindfulness Meditation  
 Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling

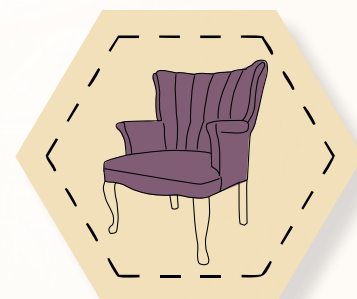
### **Jen Daniels: pinkjend #4930**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Little Squirts



### **Joanne Terwilliger: Fox #7732**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
 Beginner badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
 Beginner badge: Outpost / Rocks and Minerals  
 Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Apples  
 Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Green Energy  
 Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
 Beginner badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging  
 Intermediate badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
 Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
 Expert badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
 Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Canning  
 Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Spinning  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / What's Your Beef?  
 Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Emergency Preparedness  
 Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Emergency Preparedness  
 Expert badge: Make It Easy / Emergency Preparedness  
 Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Dyeing for Color



### **Joyce Hein: GinghamGirl #6071**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Putting Away for Winter

continued ...





## continued ...

Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Green Energy

**Julia Vermeulen: Indigo #351**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Bread Making

**Julie Deane: Nature Jules #7051**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Crochet

**Karla Reinhart: #4476**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Entrepreneurial Spirit

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Recipes

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting

Intermediate badge: Each Other / Entrepreneurial Spirit

Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Recipes

Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting

Expert badge: Each Other / Entrepreneurial Spirit

**Katie Kelsch: #4066**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Buttoned Up

Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Buttoned Up

**Kimberly Nelson: kmnelson77 #3492**

Beginner badge: Outpost / "Out There" Women

**Kim Reineke: goodmedicine #4826**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Her-story

**Loretta Brown: Loretta #4579**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / 3 R's (Reuse, Recycle, Revive!)

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Gaining Ground

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Horse Dreams

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / What's Your Beef?

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Heirlooms Forever?

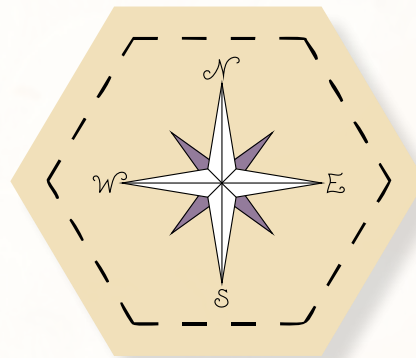
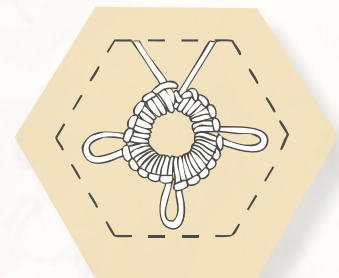
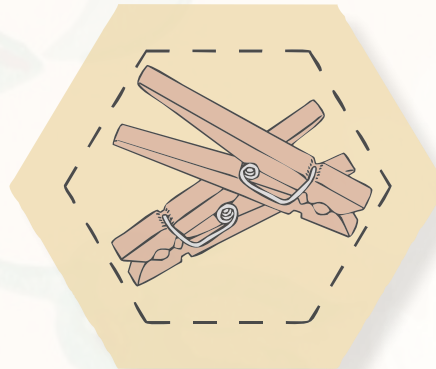
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Grow Where You're Planted

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Aprons

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Origami



continued ...

35





## continued ...

### **Lori Beck: #7774**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
 Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
 Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Birds  
 Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Relaxation  
 Beginner badge: Outpost: Farmgirl's Best Friend  
 Beginner badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
 Intermediate badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
 Intermediate badge: Cleaning up / Recycling



### **Marlene Lavery: #7503**

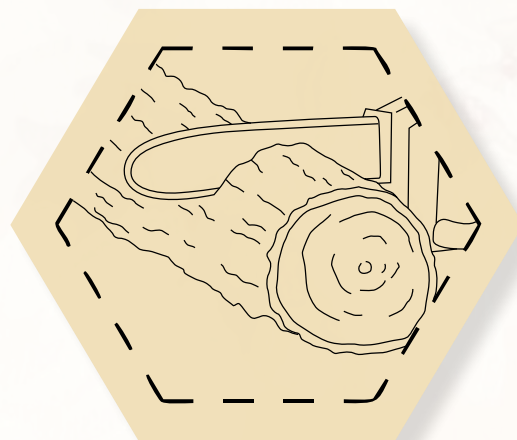
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Aprons  
 Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Buttoned Up

### **Mckensey Wise: Mrswise #7733**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Crochet  
 Beginner badge: Outpost / Woman-at-Arms

### **Sherrilyn Carroll: Sherri #1350**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Palate Pleasers  
 Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Palate Pleasers  
 Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Food Allergy Awareness  
 Intermediate badge: Outpost / Outstepping

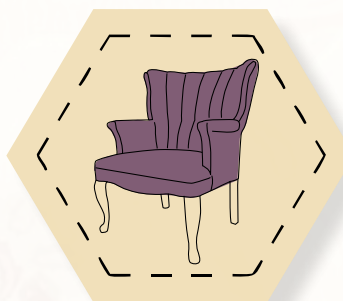


### **Teresa Roberson: carolinacateyes #7386**

Beginner badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around  
 Intermediate badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging  
 Intermediate badge: Each Other / Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rythmatic  
 Intermediate badge: Outpost / Farmgirl's Best Friend  
 Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Jewelry Making  
 Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Collect It!  
 Expert badge: Outpost / Farmgirl's Best Friend

### **Terry Steinmetz: teryouth54 #3600**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Bread Making  
 Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Bread Making  
 Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Bread Making  
 Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green  
 Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Cheesemaking







## Each issue of MaryJanesFarm

is filled with gardening guidance, delightful craft projects, and scores of delicious seasonal recipes. Plus, you'll read ideas for vintage collecting, earth-friendly living, and more.



Enjoy the simply, healthy, and heartwarming pleasures of MaryJanesFarm all through the coming year.



## SUBSCRIBE NOW!

at [MaryJanesFarm.org](http://MaryJanesFarm.org),  
and get the next six issues

## FOR ONLY \$19.95





# Young Cultivator

## Merit Badge Awardees

### Merit Badge Awardees

**Click here**  
to read  
about  
Merit Badge  
awardees.

**Mattie Rivera: Young Cultivator of Karla Reinhart #4476**  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / All Buttoned Up



#### What's a Farmerette?

Farmerettes are young farmgirls-in-training between the ages 14–18. They can earn the same Merit Badges as adult Sisters, so long as there is a Farmgirl Sisterhood member nearby to work with them. **Click here to find out more.**

#### What's a Young Cultivator?

Young Cultivators are girls and boys between the ages 6 and 13. They can work with Farmgirl Sisterhood members to earn badges, but have their own unique program. **Click here to find out more.**



“Snow provokes  
responses that  
reach right back  
to childhood.”

— Andy Goldsworthy





# THE HOUSE AT THE END OF THE ROAD

by Shirley Jean Pierce, Florida

Adapted from Sam Walter Foss' poem,  
*The House by the Side of the Road*, 1897.

There are gentle souls that give each day  
With the peace of talents spent.  
There are souls, like stars, that dwell to shine  
In their loved ones' sweet content.  
There are pioneer souls that blaze their paths,  
The wagon ruts still call —  
But let me live at the end of the road  
And make a home for all.

Let me live in a house at the end of the road  
Where the walk of life draws nigh —  
Where folks who work hard and have calloused hands,  
As good and as bad as I,  
Can live and not judge another's heart  
Or cast a critic's eye  
Let me live in a house at the end of the road  
And open my door to sky.

I see from my house at the end of the road,  
The rolling fields of life,  
I see women who press with the ardor of hope,  
Their aprons stained with strife.  
But I turn not away from their smiles nor their tears —  
Both part of the infinite plan;  
Let me live in a house at the end of the road  
And be to all a kind woman.

I know there are lark-filled meadows ahead,  
And mountains of wearisome height,  
There are gardens to tend and children to mend  
And day simply turns into night.  
But still I rejoice when my sisters rejoice,  
And weep with the women that moan,  
With the dream of a farm at the end of the road  
For a little girl too quickly grown.

Let me live in my house at the end of the road  
And welcome the women who try —  
They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,  
Wise, foolish—so am I.  
Then why should I look with a critic's eye  
Or judge another's call?  
Let me live in a house at the end of the road  
And make a home for all.

Several years ago, I posted a challenge to my Farmgirl Sisters: Are any of you up to the task of re-writing one of my favorite poems, you know, to make it more farmgirl? To this day, Shirley Jean Pierce's rendition sits in its own frame next to my original framed poem written by Sam Walter Foss. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do.

Mary Jane

P.S. One of my future stitching projects I hope to accomplish someday is to embroider Shirley's poem as a long piece of artwork that hangs like a scroll from near my ceiling (I have a vaulted ceiling). That way, I'd be savoring every word for a very long time, during both the stitching of it and daily whenever I see it.



# Magazines, Books & More



Our Feb/Mar issue (Tiptoe Through the Flowers) will hit newsstands on Jan 1. In it, you'll find lots of recipes for hot and hearty soups, get clever ways to organize your kitchen, learn how to grow a countertop carrot crop, discover healing plants to add to your garden this spring, and more. Don't risk missing *MaryJanesFarm* magazine on newsstands.

[Click here](#) to subscribe to *MaryJanesFarm* magazine.

If you're a subscriber, you should receive your magazine soon. (Those of you near postal hubs get faster delivery; rural delivery takes a little longer.) If you don't receive your magazine, you can call our publisher's subscription department at 800-476-4611 to check on your delivery.

## Magazine "Goodies" on the MJF Website

"For those who are looking for the magazine portion of the website, here is the place to find additional patterns, instructions, recipes and such! Yum!"

— Alee, Farmgirl Sister #8

To find the goodies, [click here!](#)

## Calendar Update

"What, there isn't going to be a MaryJanesFarm calendar in 2019?" At first, I was as surprised as my caller when I realized it was already Nov. 28 before Carol and I had finally found a moment to discuss the particulars of another calendar. It isn't that we don't have stunning photos or the desire to make another beautiful calendar. It's just that by the time we got started, we realized we should have started on it a few weeks earlier given it takes a couple of weeks to have it bound and several days to create it. According to MaryJanesFarm 2018 calendar, that would put us one week in front of Christmas. Our hope is you'll miss it enough to come back next year. Going forward, we'll put an entry on Halloween that says, "Start Making MJF Calendar." Please accept our apologies. We feel daft to have somehow misplaced all of November to other projects.

**7,792 Sisterhood members and 11,036 Merit Badges earned —  
growing stronger every day!**