

KENTUCKY

MASTER

CLOTHING

VOLUNTEER

PROGRAM

CLOTHING & TEXTILES PROGRAM
242E Scovell Hall
Lexington, KY 40546-0064
Phone (859) 257-7772
Fax (859) 257-7565

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/hes/fcs/MVP/index.html>



Bobbin' along with Marjorie



"extending clothing knowledge and skills"

April
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Newsletter

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As I write this, the sun is shining and it is evident that Mother Nature forgot to send us a winter this year. I'm not complaining as I enjoy the colors of springtime and they prompt me to think about sewing fun things for the upcoming summer.

A big thank you goes to Bonnie Glass and Patsy Kinman for presenting at the 4-H Volunteer Leader's Forum in February. They did a great session on Quick Sewing Projects. Also, Anne Rae Wright and Wanda Teagarden helped me in several sessions. Since this is a recruiting year, it was a great opportunity to showcase the Kentucky Master Clothing Volunteer Program. I hope everyone is actively seeking out qualified individuals to join the program.

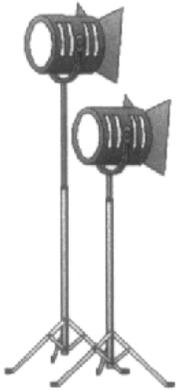
I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the *It's Sew Fine for Home and Family Sewing Expo* at General Butler State Resort Park later this month. It's yet another opportunity to have fun at an educational venue. This year's guest speaker is Gail Yellen of Gail Patrice Design. Gail will also be coming to Louisville in September as a guest of the Louisville Chapter of the American Sewing Guild to do a trunk show and a hands-on workshop. You don't have to be a member to attend, but I would encourage everyone to join as being a member of ASG has many of benefits.

In doing some research for this newsletter, I came across something I thought you all would find amusing. It seems that the occupation of a seamstress has a questionable history. In researching this term which is often used synonymously for a dressmaker, I found that in Seattle, Wash., during the days of the Gold Rush, the term "seamstress" was what "ladies of the night" listed as their legal or "daytime" occupation. A significant amount of Seattle's tax revenue was collected from those that made a living from men removing their pants. Now mind you, they all had a sewing machine in their front window as well. Perhaps the pants needed mending? You be the judge!

Marjorie M. Baker

Marjorie M. Baker, M.S.
Extension Associate for Clothing and Textiles

SPOTLIGHT



Bette Zilligen

CMCV Marshall County, Class of 2002

Bette remembers as a small child of maybe 5 or 6, receiving a toy hand crank sewing machine for Christmas. Her dad mounted it on a large board that he had stained and sanded to prevent her from getting splinters. The mounting made it a lot easier to turn the crank. At the time, that was the only sewing machine her family had in the house.

Bette and her cousin were taking dancing lessons when her mother volunteered to make their costumes for the recital. Bette was amazed at how her mother took those pieces of fabric and sewed them together on that little machine and made both girls' costumes. Bette believes this experience was when she decided she wanted to know how to sew.

Bette's mother and grandmother were her first sewing teachers. They were the ones that really taught her the love of sewing. The first formal training she had was in junior high school. Bette says, "The school sewing instructor was pretty cool and they could make whatever they wanted to make." Bette made a reversible skating skirt and matching reversible vest. The skirt had a waistband and zipper and the vest had buttons and buttonholes. Needless to say she didn't realize that she had picked out

something that required more knowledge of sewing than she had at that time. The teacher was very patient and took a lot of time with each person in the class. She taught them what they needed to know to finish their projects. All in all, it turned out really good as Bette said she wore the outfit to the skating rink on a number of occasions.

Bette says her experience as a Master Clothing Volunteer has been wonderful. She has learned so many things in the program: new skills, techniques and lots of patience. She has also met so many people, both in the program and through the program. One of these has become a dear best friend. The Master Clothing Volunteer Program offers opportunities not found in any place else.

Bette and her husband, Bob, have been blessed to have two daughters, Robynn and Shawynn. Robynn, the eldest has given them the "best, most gentle and thoughtful grandson, Brent." Brent will be turning 23 this year. He is planning to be married the end of this October.



Rotary Cutting Mat Rx

Submitted by Nell Jordan, CMCV
Member of the Steering Committee and the
Class of 1998

Opps! I've done it again and messed up big time. Left the cutting mat in the car and the trapped heat warped the mat and made a bowl out of it. What to do? What to do? Do not despair, all is not lost. It can be corrected. Ask me how I know and I will tell you that it has happened to me.

To correct a warped mat, simply choose a warm, sunny day and place the mat on a

flat portable surface that is larger than the mat. Set it in the sunshine for a while. As soon as the sun warms it up, the heat will flatten it and it will take the shape of the flat surface that it is on. As soon as it is flat, take it in the house, being careful to keep it on the flat surface until it has cooled. Be sure to always store and transport the mat on a flat surface away from heat.

When using a cutting mat and ruler, be sure to use the measurements on the ruler rather than the measurements on the mat as the ruler measurements are more accurate. Also, after a mat has warped and flattened the measurement lines may not be as accurate as they were originally.

Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival

Are you looking for something fun to do in Lexington? Check out the Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival



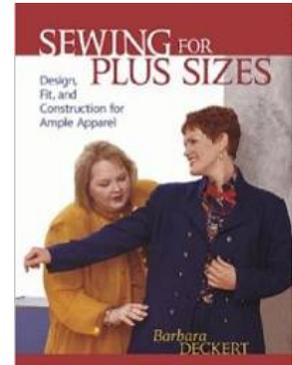
May 18 – 20 at Masterson Station Park. At Festival time, you will find Masterson Station Park packed with fiber related vendors carrying a fanciful selection of fiber and sheep related products. You will find fiber from sheep, alpacas, goats, angora; spinning wheels and spinning related equipment; hand spun and dyed yarns for knitting, crochet and weaving; handmade rugs, buttons, hats, needles, shawls, and so much more. Adult admission is \$3, children under 12 are free.

Check out their website for classes being offered and list of vendors

<http://www.kentuckysheepandfiber.com/>

Book Review:

Sewing for Plus Sizes by Barbara Deckert, 1999, published by Tauton Press, 160 pages.



This book is a wealth of information for those who sew for any size person.

Barbara Deckert has geared it to the "plus size" person, but information about line, design, fabric selection, equipment for sewing and pattern alteration is applicable to everyone. The book has many useful illustrations of various body shapes and how various styles will look on them. Suggestions for modifying garment styles to make them the most attractive on those shapes is also included. Her attitude about clothing is that it should be enjoyable to wear. Her section on fabric selection contains information about what performance to expect from various fabrics according to fiber content and structure design. Practical guidance is given for selection of certain fabrics for some things and not for others. She demystifies the arena of sewing tools, stating which are essential and which are optional. Numerous practical sewing tips are included. Barbara devotes a large part of the book to pattern alterations for figure irregularities. This section contains illustrations to change the shape of purchased patterns to accommodate various physical irregularities, whether they relate to size or asymmetry. Her understanding of the way the body tissues behave and change shape from standing to sitting and the way the sewer can allow for these changes sets this book apart from other general sewing books.

Look for this book at your local library, used bookstore or order on line. It's a must read.

Hats off to the Louisville Master Clothing Volunteers



Louisville area MCVs and friends made 90 comfort caps on March 26, 2012, at the Shelby County Extension Office. Great job, ladies!

Going with the Grain



Wanda Teegarden quizzes her audience on fabric terminology at the Kentucky 4-H Volunteer Forum held in February.

Calendar of Events

April 17 – 18 *It's Sew Fine for Home and Family Sewing Expo*, General Butler State Resort Park

May 18 – 20 *Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival*, Masterson Station Park, Lexington

June 13 *State 4-H Fashion Revue*, Lexington

July 23 *MCV Steering Committee meeting*, Hardin County Extension Office, Elizabethtown

Hand Sewing Technique



Bonnie Glass, sharing a hand sewing technique at the Quick Sewing Projects class and Patsy Kinman taught at the 4-H Volunteer Leader's Forum in February.

Summary of 2011 Report

Number reporting: 99

Number completing total number of hours for recertification in one year's time: 22

Teaching hours: 7,280.50

Continuing Education hours: 4,766

Leadership and Service hours: 4,103.75

Total Volunteer hours: 11,315.25

Contacts: 37,068

Active certified MCVs: 91

Class of 2010 MCVs: 18

Active Emeritus MCVs: 5

Total Active MCVs: 114

Inactive Emeritus MCVs: 2

Pocket Tea Caddy

This handy pocket tea caddy makes a nice party favor. It has pockets to hold tea bags and sweetener packets. Make one today to protect your tea bags from getting crumbled in your purse.

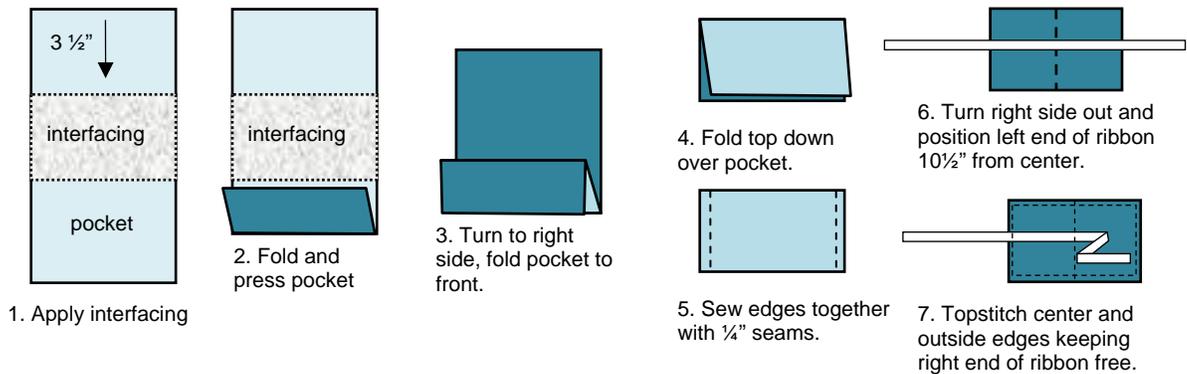


Materials needed:

- (1) 11 ¾" by 6 ½" piece of cotton fabric (the one in the photo was pieced to get enough length)
- (1) 6 ½" by 3 ½" piece of stiff fusible interfacing
- (1) 18" piece of ribbon

Instructions:

1. Apply interfacing to fabric with one edge 3½" down from top end of fabric. (see illustrations)
2. The pocket will be formed from the other end of the fabric strip. Fold pocket end up to meet the interfacing edge at the middle. Press a crease.
3. Turn fabric over with right side facing up. Bring pocket to front, folding at lower edge of interfacing.
4. Fold remaining end down over the folded pocket end, matching sides and corners. (folded piece should measure 6 ½" by 3 ½")
5. Sew edges together with ¼" seams. Do not sew the folded ends.
6. Turn right side out. Flip pocket over the open end. Press flat. Find center by folding and pressing in half. Position and pin ribbon on the back side with 10 ½" extended from center on the left side.
7. Sew through all layers, starting at the top of the center crease, sewing through the ribbon, turning at the bottom. Continue stitching close to the outer edges all the way around sewing through the ribbon only on the left side. Do not stitch through the ribbon on the right side. This will allow the caddy to be folded and tied across the front.



Photos, illustrations and instructions by:

Marjorie M. Baker, M.S.
Extension Associate for Clothing and Textiles

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