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CRAFTY VISIONS

Newsletter

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Winter Holidays are coming!.....by The Bluebonnet Crafters



Announcements..... Fun Stuff, Free Stuff and More!



Contributors.....Please Visit Our Friends!



Letter From Laurieann

Hi Fellow Crafters,

St. Patrick's Day will be here soon. The Bluebonnet Crafters have put together a great selections of seasonal crafts.

Also please check out "Galen" a 28" cloth doll Leprechaun. His picture can be found in the announcement section and information on taking an online class to make "Galen" can be found at Crafty College (<http://craftycollege.com>).

Sincerely,


*Laurieann*TM

laurieann@ivisions.com

PS

If you want a condensed copy of this newsletter e-mailed to you, send a request to cvnfeb00@wvvisions.com.

And, if you have not subscribed to this newsletter, please fill out our on-line subscribe form as well as check out past issues of The [Crafty Visions Newsletter](#).



 **Seasonal Crafts**
by Bluebonnet Crafters

Painted Candle Centerpiece



Materials:

- Pillar candle in white or green
- DecoArt Candle Painting Medium
- Acrylic paint in blue, red, yellow and green
- Paint brush
- An old CD
- Gold chocolate coins

Instructions:

Prepare your candle following the instructions on the candle painting medium bottle. Paint a rainbow arching from the top partially around the candle ending at the bottom on the opposite side. In our example we show pastel colors for the rainbow but you can make your rainbow to your own taste. Paint a circle of small Shamrocks around the base of the candle. Allow to dry thoroughly.

Place your pillar candle in the center of the CD and add the gold coins heaped at the end of the rainbow but spread randomly around on the CD and off onto the table. This can be used as a table centerpiece or as a room decoration in place of a candy dish. Since the chocolate coins are wrapped they can spread onto the table or mantelpiece where they are placed.

The CD will give the candle that extra glow when lit.

Plastic Canvas Coasters

This plastic canvas chart was designed using Plastic Canvas Design Studio by M & R Technology Inc., 1945 Southtown Blvd. Suite C, Dayton Ohio 45439. PH: 1-800-800-8517 for sales only. FAX: 1-937-294-1989 URL: <http://www.pcstitch.com>



Materials:

- 7 ct. plastic canvas
- Small amount of white yarn
- Small amount of bright green yarn
- Scissors
- Needle



Instructions:

Cut your plastic canvas 25 X 28 bars. Using the chart do the Continental Stitch to complete the white background and the green Shamrock pattern.

Having completed the pattern overcast around the entire outside in white.

Stitching the complete coaster using the Continental Stitch will give you a finished back that requires no additional finishing. Coasters can be made individually or in sets or can be used as an ornament or gift tag.



Crafty Tips

by [Bluebonnet Crafters](#)

1. When burning Pillar or decorated candles allow them to burn down in the center forming a well the size of a small votive candle then just keep adding votive candles as they burn down. This is a good way to save the expensive decorative candle and also add scent to a plain unscented pillar by using scented votives.

2. To control the edge when burning the paper around a poem or saying to frame: Draw your line with a wet cotton swab or foam brush and allow the burn to go out in the moist area of the paper.

3. Organize your fabric stash: clip the corners of the fabric as you pre-wash your fabric, then fold so the corners show. You will always know at a glance which the fabrics have been pre-washed.



Crafty Visions Classifieds

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#### ***New for crafters: Pocket-Size Doll Pin Kits***

Three styles of silk doll blanks with everything you need to dye and dress your own fantasy figure. A dancer, mermaid and clown can become anything you wish.

[Rupert, Gibbon & Spider - http://www.jacquardproducts.com/](http://www.jacquardproducts.com/)

P.O. Box 425 Healdsburg, CA 95448 USA

Phone: 800-442-0455 or (707) 433-9577 Fax: 707-433-4906

[info@jacquardproducts.com](mailto:info@jacquardproducts.com)

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Hand blown glass icicles and ornaments by Terry Albright

Icicles:

Tinys (about 2 inches) 20 for \$18.00 (reg. \$20.00)

Smalls (3 to 4 inches) are \$18.00 / doz. (reg. \$20.00)

Large (6 to 7 inches) are \$24.00 /doz. (reg. \$30.00)

Mixed sets (6 sm. & 6 lg.) \$21.00 / doz (reg. \$25.00)

Tiny globes with tiny holes for inserting ribbon...5 for \$15.00

Plus shipping at actual cost Usually \$3.20 for 1 to 4 dozen inside USA. Contact

Terry for more information Email: Dyllweed77@aol.com or call 800-484-4951

(put in code 7893)

Mention Crafty Visions Newsletter for the special price.

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**Free Herb Gardening Newsletter** - *The Country Cottage Herb Gardener* is free e-mail newsletter for herb gardeners of all kinds. For more information and to sign-up go to: <http://www.limestoneedge.com/FreeCCHGinfo.html>

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Craft Mailing List - A craft email list, sponsored by the *Bluebonnet Crafters*, where you can ask crafty questions, help us answer others and enjoy sharing talk about crafts.

Sign Up Now! - <http://bluebonnetvillage.com/happens.htm>

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 **Our Featured Artist.....**



Richard and Lucille Larsen began Kuntry Kuties as a hobby in 1990. In the beginning they did local craft shows but found the craft bug had truly bitten them and they wanted to expand to some of the larger shows. This was fun and they were having a good time meeting other crafters and selling their unique products.

By 1995 crafters were talking about the New England Product Trade Show. The talk really sounded interesting so they began to check into the requirements. In 1996 they exhibited at the trade show. They learned a lot about wholesaling and wrote a lot of orders. Upon returning home they started to fill the orders and make the items for those craft shows that had already been booked.

Lucille was doing the major work at this point while Richard continued working in the carpentry field. It was becoming too difficult for Lucille to keep up with all the orders and shows. After much thinking and praying over the decision Richard quit his job and they began crafting full time.

Needing catalogs to send out to the stores showing their products they invested in a computer. They began making the products, taking the pictures, writing the text and all the other things that go into making a catalog.

As they exhibited at craft shows in different towns they would check out the gift stores in the area and upon returning home mail out catalogs to those retailers where they thought their product would do well. They picked up a good number of stores in this manner.

At night Richard would surf the net just to check things out and Lucille says he was hooked. About that time they met a friend from his former working days who was setting up his own business on the Internet and as they say "the rest is history". Kuntry Kuties has been on the web over four years now.

Lucille and Richard have progressed from working in the garage to working in the garage and an enclosed porch and now have reached the point where they need a separate shop which they will build this summer. To quote the Larsens "the Internet has been real good to us and we thank God every day for his guidance".



Lucille is camera shy but did send a picture of Rich claiming she was taking the picture so couldn't be in it.

Richard and Lucille Larsen
P.O. Box 433
Crouseville, ME 04738

Email: kuntry@bangornews.infi.net or Phone: (207) 455- 4709 or 1- 888- 4kuntry
(1- 888- 458- 6879) Visit Kuntry Kuties [here](#) or [here](#)



Crafty Kids.....

Irish For The Day Door Hanger



These door hangers can be made from a variety of materials, construction paper, light cardboard, "Eazy Felt" or Fun Foam.

Materials:

- Material of your choice
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- White craft glue

Instructions:

Print out and trace the pattern ([Click HERE for Pattern](#)) onto your chosen material. Make the diagonal cut from the edge into the center of the circle and cut out the circle hanger area. Print "Irish For The Day" on the door hanger as shown.

Cut out a small Shamrock shape in a slightly different shade of green, use a Shamrock sticker or draw the Shamrock shape on your door hanger with the permanent marker. Hang on doorknob.

Terrarium

Check with your local fast food restaurant for 1 gallon glass jars. They are often free or at low cost.

Materials:

- 1 gallon glass jar
- Gravel, marbles, aquarium gravel, etc.
- Purchased potting soil
- 3 small bedding plants
- Option: Small glass/china/resin figure of your choice

Instructions:

Place a 1/2" layer of gravel in the bottom of your jar. Add a thick layer (approx. 5") of potting soil. Remove the plants from plastic container. If in a "peat" container plant the whole thing.

Place your plants into the potting soil at the same depth they were growing in the container. Gently pat the soil so there is good contact. Very gently add water to your soil so the soil is just damp. Place it in a window that gets the morning sun and watch the plants grow.

Option: Small glass or resin purchased animals, bugs, frogs or snails give your terrarium a lived in look. They can be placed away from the root part of the plant but so the little critters look at home with the plants.



Kitchen Crafts.....

Potato Refrigerator Rolls

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 c. warm water
- 1 pkg. active dry yeast
- 2/3 c. sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2/3 c. soft shortening
- 2 eggs
- 1 c. luke warm mashed potatoes
- 7 to 7 1/2 c. flour

Directions

In your mixing bowl dissolve the yeast in the warm water. Add sugar, salt,

shortening, eggs and potatoes. Measure your flour by dip and level method. Mix in the flour with your hands until the dough is easy to handle. Turn out on a lightly floured board and knead until smooth and elastic.

Place in a greased bowl turning it greased side up and cover with a damp cloth. Place in the refrigerator.

About two hours before baking shape the dough into rolls, coffeecakes, etc. Cover and let rise until double (approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours). Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Bake rolls 12 to 15 minutes until golden brown.

Makes approximately 4 dozen medium sized rolls.

Tips:

Dough will keep in the refrigerator approximately 5 days. You may cut off as much as you plan to bake at one time and the rest can remain refrigerated. When allowing to rise, allow to double in size. The time may vary depending on how cold the dough is and the size of the rolls, usually 1 1/2 to 2 hours.



Shamrock Napkin Rings

Material:

- Green felt or Fun Foam
- White craft glue
- Scissors
- Optional: Green fabric marker or permanent marker

Instructions:

Using the pattern as a guide cut out one Shamrock with a long, long stem for each napkin ring. Loop the stem around in a circle and glue it approximately in the middle of the Shamrock. This will form your napkin ring and allow the Shamrock to sit up slightly.

Option: Using your marker you can draw small vein lines in the Shamrock or personalize the napkin rings by writing each persons name.



Winter Craft



Felt Stocking Gift Holder/Ornament

You can make these little stockings in any color of your choice, changing the color of the embroidery floss to compliment. Our picture shows a bright red stocking with deep red floss, but pick colors of your choice.

Materials

- 2 4" X 4" pieces of felt or fabric
- Embroidery floss in red, green and yellow
- Embroidery needle
- 6" piece of white lace
- 6" piece of ribbon for hanger



Lazy Daisy Stitch



French Knot

Instructions:

Use the picture itself as the pattern

Using the pattern cut out two stocking shapes. Embroider the small flower as shown on the pattern piece on one stocking shape. Place one decorated and one plain shape wrong sides together and blanket/buttonhole stitch around the outside leaving the top open. Place the lace around the open edge and stitch it in place adding the ribbon hanger on the heel side of the sock.


Option: You can embroider a name on the plain shape before putting the stockings together if you wish to personalize them. These little stockings are not only an ornament but will hold a small gift, gift certificate or monetary gift.



Announcements

<p style="text-align: center;">"Galen" 28" Elf or Leprechaun Online Class at Crafty College! by Gail Kellison <u>Click HERE for More Information!</u> http://CraftyCollege.com</p>	
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 <p style="text-align: center;">Everything Crafts!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Craft Village News, supplies, patterns gallery, teddies & more</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">1999 Web of Angels - New Projects!</p> <p>A huge FREE online class with over 60 angel crafts provided by artists world wide!</p> <p>To join in the fun please go to http://craftycollege.com/webofangels/</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">1999</p>
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Visit - Crafty Links Mall!

<http://CraftyLinks.com>

Go to... <http://CraftyLinks.com> to search for craft sites or to add your site for FREE!



Featured - Bulletin Board

Ask Bluebonnet Crafters!
Bulletin Board

Answers to all your craft questions!

<http://wwvisions.com/craftbb/askbb.html>



 **Contributor:**

o **Bluebonnet Crafters**

e-mail: bluebonnet@BluebonnetVillage.com

URL: <http://www.BluebonnetVillage.com>

Thank you for reading the CRAFTY VISIONS NEWSLETTER and a very special thanks to our contributors! We are now accepting contributions for all our newsletter features. Please send all contributions to Laurieann@ivisions.com

You can still read all our old issues, just click on [HERE!](#)

<http://www.wwvisions.com/newsletter/>

Please **[contact](#)** us with your questions, suggests, or submissions!



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