

# HANDCRAFTS MONTHLY



## MARCH GATHERINGS

### MARCH 10

10:00 to noon at Sewing World in the upstairs classroom, 136 71 Ave. SE  
If you wish, please bring along a snack to share. Remember to park in the rear and to mention us when you shop. Facebook Demo to follow.

### MARCH 25

1:00 P to 3:00 PM at Glenda Nyberg's, 3704 - 36 Ave. S.W.  
Please contact Glenda at [c.nyberg@shaw.ca](mailto:c.nyberg@shaw.ca) to let her know you plan to attend. Stay on for the Apron Demo.

## MARCH at a glance

**March 10** - Sewing World Gathering.

**March 20** - Purses Workshop.

**March 25** - Gathering at Glenda Nyberg's.

**March 25** - Apron Demo after the Gathering.

Pick up a gift bag kit at the next gathering for a satisfying project when you need something quick.



## NEWS FROM HANDCRAFTS COMMITTEE

### PURSE WORKSHOP - MARCH 20

[CRAFTSY](#) has some great bag making classes.

Join us on March 20 in Janice Meeking's work room while we work through one of these classes to construct a great fabric purse that has all the features that results in a bag we know we will sell.

Supplies will be available to complete a professional looking purse. Then make more at home.

[REGISTER HERE.](#)

### APRON DEMO - MARCH 25

Stay on after the March 25 Gathering at Glenda's for a mini demo on aprons. Aprons are a popular items at the sale and Rose Besler and Dawn Bolger will talk about fabric, styles and embellishments that result in aprons that sell.

There may even be some kits available.

### HOME DECOR - WHAT TO MAKE

Home Decor contains a great variety of products. This month Barb Doll, the Home Decor custodian, and her assistant, Rose Besler, tell us about some of the most popular products and provide some guidance to help us make products that our customers can't wait to buy.

Inspiration is everywhere. Keep your eyes and minds open for creative opportunities. The internet is a massive source. Just enter the item of interest. And [CRAFTSY](#) is huge with ideas! Other idea sources are craft, kitchen and home furnishing stores, new home shows. Our upcoming Yarn & Fabric Sale is an opportunity to find perfect supplies for all those wonderful ideas in your head. Consider color, texture, design and use quality fabrics and finishes. Look for details that are so delicious you can't wait to create your own version. See page 2 for more.



## KNIT NOTES



**SCRUBBIES:**  
Customers still prefer the original crocheted scrubbies but we also have success with the knitted ones just not to the same extent. Patterns for both on the PATTERNS page [HERE](#).

### DISH CLOTHS:

We always sell a lot of dishcloths. Customers look for darker colors or variegated yarn. Several dishcloths were in a variety of shapes. The dishcloths that were decoratively presented in sets of three were well received by the customers.



**POTHOLDERS:** We had a wonderful variety of potholders from interesting cotton fabrics which sold extremely well. Use Insul Bright with a layer of batting, two layers of batting or one layer of regular and one of thermal batting.

**APRONS:** Aprons sell well. Customers look for well-made aprons in appealing fabrics that wear and wash well such as darker fabrics, denim and reversible aprons. Add interest with contrasting fabrics on pockets, trim, neck straps or waist ties. Full aprons seemed to sell better than half but there are still people who prefer half aprons. Match an apron with potholders for a great set. Watch for an apron demo at our March 25 and April 14 gatherings.

### PLACEMATS, RUNNERS & MATS:



All placemats sold at the last BB&B. It is great to have a variety of well-made cotton placemats in sets of 2, 4 or 6 with or without napkins. A matching insulated table protector or pot holders

adds to the set. Use interesting cotton fabrics in current colors and designs. Placemats, table runners, table mats and table protectors need some quilting to give them stability.

**PILLOW CASES:** Customers look for beautiful, cotton prints. Children's prints are very popular and we always need prints suitable for boys. The pattern with no exposed seams on the inside works very well.



## SEW WHAT?

**WINE BAGS:** The upholstery sample wine bags that we demo'd last year were very successful. Customers liked the design, the decorative stitches and the sturdiness of the upholstery fabric. I also made a few with old blue jeans. The legs were the perfect size for the bag and I added parts from the jeans as decoration as pockets, front flap, etc and added a bit of bling with rhinestone stick-ons.



I stenciled on some with Artist Paintstik. The pattern for these wine bags is [HERE](#). Upholstery fabrics are readily available at the fabric sale.

**MUG MATS:** These are popular right now and are a good way to use up cotton scraps.

### CHRISTMAS:

Any of the above projects can be made in Christmas fabrics for our Christmas table. Tree skirts, tree ornaments, Christmas gnomes and tree-top angels sell well in conventional Christmas fabrics.



### GIFT BAGS:

We always need gift bags in great Christmas colors and fabrics or all-occasion gift bags in eye-catching cotton prints, both with beautiful ribbons.

**WHAT'S IN YOUR BAG, DRAWER, SUITCASE?**  
This category sold well; a variety of small bags, sets of zipped bags for men and women, luggage tags, small kleenex holders, etc.

What can you think of for this category?

**OOPS!** We did find that one has to be careful of copyrighted patterns and fabrics. It is usually quite easy to ask permission of the designers or publishers. We are a charity and only make a few of most items so permission is usually given graciously. We will recognize these designers on our web site if you send us details.

We haven't included everything that is covered in Home Decor. We are always open to new ideas that keep our Home Decor department vibrant. Thank you for all the work you do to make Home Decor a great success. Make what you like, as much as you like, and always enjoy the process.