

Apron Memories®



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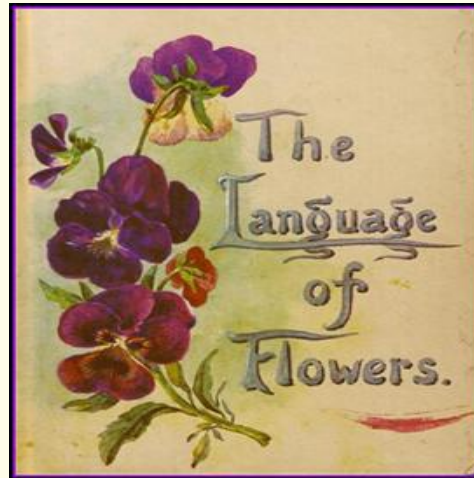


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EllynAnne's Apron Memories® Newsletter | April 30, 2010

Hey! First of all, happy spring and a big thank you to everyone who planted bulbs last fall. Your Wonder-of-Holland yards brought pleasure to many and made the world a much prettier place.

In this most wonderful little book, flowers are described as "...silent beauty."



It is a handwritten ledger of every flower, plant, bush and tree and the meaning of its name. The Daffodil, Great Yellow is the flower of chivalry, with Tulip, Red...a Declaration of love; Tulip, Variagated...Beautiful eyes, and Tulip, Yellow...symbolizing Hopeless Love. There is a romance to this book - inside, on the front cover, is this inked inscription: *To Mother, Wishing you many happy returns of the day - from Father, August 8th, 1913.* This hubs was no clunker when it came to wooing.



The new [Clever Hostess](#) addresses the conundrum of entertaining a group without being stuck in the kitchen.

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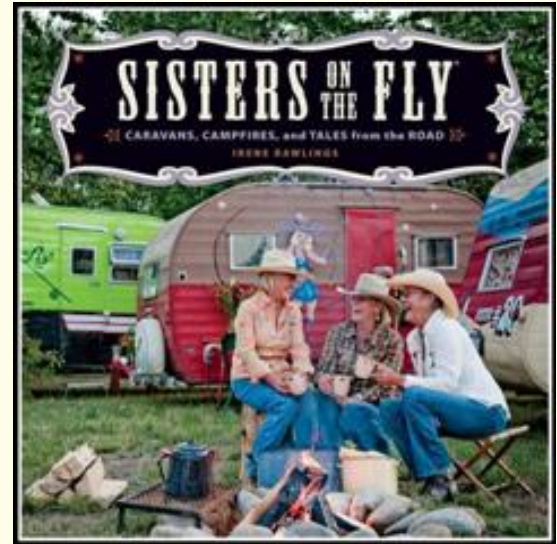
Copy the code, paste to your site and we're linked!



In that I adhere to the notion that *it's better to entertain easily than not to entertain at all*, this tip is one I utilize often.

Even with just a handful of guests, I leave some items, like a loaded platter or hot dishes, set up as self-serve.

Over my ten-year apron journey, I've met many apron collectors, but only one, Irene Rawlings, whose first words were, "I hate you." I remember laughing at her declaration. Author of 3 books, magazine editor-in-chief and Clear Channel radio personality, [Irene](#) then told me she'd always meant to write a book based on her apron collection, but I did it first. Hence, her in-jest greeting. No stranger to saying what's on my mind and minding what I said an after-thought, we became instant friends. In celebration of friendship, I am giving away two copies of Irene's newest book, [Sisters on the Fly](#). As a newsletter subscriber, you are automatically entered. Winners announced [here](#).



Vintage e-greeting

Although Western Union is no longer in the telegram business, you can send this original 1930s telegram as a vintage ecard from my [website](#)

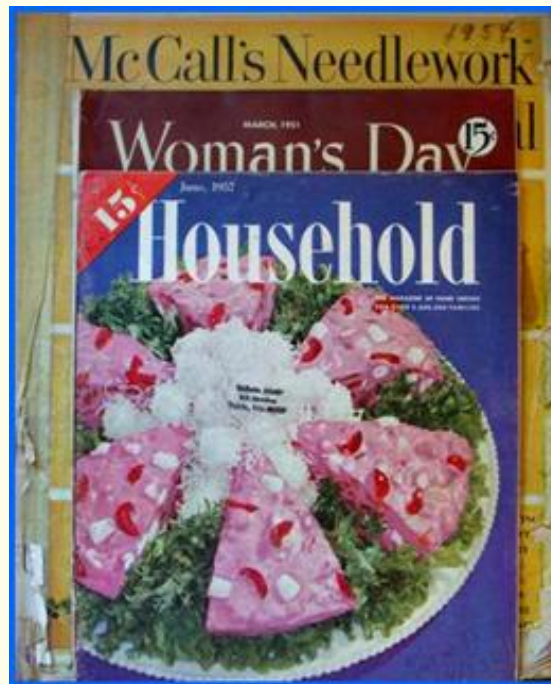


The telegram's condition is remarkable. It bears the folds from where it was delivered in an envelope, but nothing else to indicate the time that's passed since it was first sent. Such is a keepsake - so valued by the receiver, it is preserved as a priceless antiquity. We all have such items, which I wrote about [here](#). I'd love to know of your keepsakes.

Source of Vintage Minutia

Evening finds me happily sifting through stacks, bins and bundles of decades-gone-by publications. From the old magazines, cookbooks, instructional manuals, bazaar brochures, newspapers, pattern envelopes, household diaries, novels and the like, I find the array of vintage minutia that is within each newsletter. For catch up or review of previous bits of VM, past newsletters are archived [here](#).

Vintage Problem Solvers



1951 Woman's Day Lonely Hearts Club for Earrings Marcella Dorsey presides over the Earring Exchange, a free-of-charge marriage brokerage for earrings with no mate. A woman sends in her odd earring, in the hope that a matching one will be sent in by someone else. Earrings unmatched for more than three months go to a veteran's hospital or an agency for the blind, where the decorative parts are used in occupational therapy.

1954 McCall's Needlework & Crafts Annual Mrs. Robert Stockdale has discovered still another use for the versatile recipe-file box. She winds sewing supplies such as bias tape, rickrack, lace and ribbons around separate cards, which fit into the box, keeping her materials fresh and easy to locate.

1958 Household Mrs. Margaret Franson, tired of tying and untying the strings of her half aprons when hanging them up, solved the problem by sewing a small loop of bias tape just inside the waistband on the wrong side.

The loop forms a convenient hanger, helps keep the apron in shape, and proves a time-saver!

And as inspiration toward a spring clean, this **Vintage Prose**



Go Vintage, Go Green! Domestic Recycling

"The new curtains of...white damask with gilt cornices and holders, extending to the floor...are very rich looking."

Tryphena Blanche Holder Fox, writing to her mother from her Southern plantation home, July 1856

Like the classic Little Black Dress, damask of any era is rich looking. It's my favorite cloth to reuse because it's easily found in secondhand shops and

provides massive yardage at a bargain price. As to stains, I dye 'em, cut around 'em or ignore 'em. I've sewn vintage damask into napkins, aprons, a keepsake bib, storage bags for quilts and woolens, toweling, and curtains. However refashioned, forget about ironing damask - its beauty is its organic nature, which emerges through use and washing.

Feeding the Soul

DO YOU KNOW that a banana is one of the most abundant, wholesome and easily digested of foods, is one of the most important carbohydrate foods, is of moderate cost, is sealed by Nature in a germ-proof package, and makes an excellent substitute for the potato?

From the Tropics to Your Table, 1926



According to this booklet's preface, the 83 recipes were "prepared and tested by Camille Den Dooven, former chef to His Majesty Albert, King of the Belgians." Sadly, no illustration accompanied this majestic creation

#21 CANDLESTICK SALAD

Bananas 1 can sliced pineapple 1 head lettuce Brazil nuts
Equal parts cooked dressing and whipped cream
Citron or orange peel

ARRANGE lettuce leaves on plates and on them place a slice of pineapple. Cut bananas in two crosswise and stand one half upright in the hole of the pineapple slice. Pour over it a little dressing to represent dripping wax. A piece of curved citron or orange peel will serve for a handle. Place a Brazil nut on top of each banana, and light just before serving.

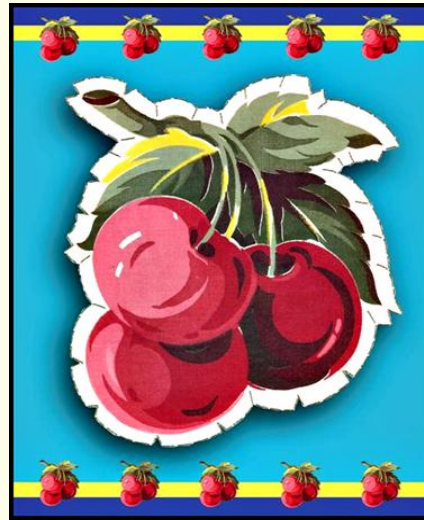
News from the Apron-Hood

Sewing machine advice is sought by my friend Tracy. Her grandmother's Futura machine (circa 1970s) is giving her fits. The needle arm won't go up and

down when she turns the wheel. If you can offer a solution, please email ellynanne@apronmemories.com and I'll let Tracy know.

For a while now, I've been working on a new Tie One On...an apron of course!™ line of goods. I was hoping to preview everything at once, but there a production disappointment with the [ponytail cap](#) and the apron is still "in concept." However, not all is in such flux - the Apron Memories® line of [notecards](#) has been refreshed with two new designs!

This card was inspired by the applique´ pocket on one of my favorite aprons. The printing is at a high resolution, with the grain of the cherries' fabric visible and the background blue just brilliantly so. Click the [link](#) to view both cards from the front, back and close up.



And if by some chance you were doing a Rip Van Winkle and missed my carrying on over my photo and interview in the Los Angeles Times article on aprons, [here](#) it is!

A longer newsletter - April passed me by, leaving me with tons to share.

Alrighty!
xxea

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