



EllyAnne's Apron Memories® Newsletter | September 28, 2011

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Y'all, Hey! The lure of "Last Call" at the farmers' markets led me to drive east to the source of local produce and pick up a bushel of peaches for processing into pies.



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On the drive home, the image of a stack of frozen pies in the freezer was replaced with this picture...



The cost of those peaches + the price of a country lane detour, made for one expensive pie!



The **Story** behind this pie - complete with all the emotion of my first ever driving ticket - plus the **Recipe**, are

Visit Apron Memories® on FB, where I share my love of all things vintage



## FEEDING THE SOUL

"A little ingenuity added to most anything will make a tasty pie."  
*Household Forum, 1937*

It takes a good cook to serve leftovers so they're tasty, nourishing, and intriguing. Leftover beef can go with grace into a casserole and come out a thing of pride and a joy to the consumers!

Grind leftover beef, put it into sauce made of browned onions and green peppers, to which you've added a can of tomatoes. Add the ground cooked beef to this, season thoroughly, rather hotly in fact, and add to some cooked macaroni, then bake in the oven with a sprinkling of cheese on top. This dish might be called anything, but it tastes delicious!

### A Spicy Tidbit

The Charleston Cook Book, 1933

Bonne´ is an East Indian herb - called Sesame in the Orient - which is supposed to be a charm with which to secure entrance and exit through any portal. It was this magic which Ali

[here](#). I added a touch of toasted almonds to the bottom crust which turned out to be a much better idea than admiring the countryside while driving over the speed limit.

With the sudden appearance of one leaf on the yard, then two hundred, tunnel vision set in and all I could see was the dining room's table covering needed to be changed out. From sunny Fifties fruit to something more...fall-ish. I've had this quilt topper forever and having not once made a move toward sewing it to a bottom, I decided instead to use it as a tablecloth. The fabric squares date from the late 1930s into the 1950s. The borders aren't finished, so there are lots of threads dangling, which one day/some day, I will or not get to.



For the covering's inaugural showing, I set out to buy a bouquet for a central vase arrangement, but then I saw the price of green peppers, 4/\$1.00, and instead used those at each place setting. So easy and so beautiful. Love it when a spontaneous inspiration turns out much better than the plan.



In 1948, *Woman's Home Companion* advised on the appropriateness of lingerie and accessories while preparing a meal.

Click [HERE](#) for the Clever Hostess's tip on Kitchen Kouture.

### a Vintage e-greeting

This month's e-greeting is a snapshot of a group of women gathered for a friendly repast. What interested me is they number 8, as do the number of cups on the right side of the table. So there are no other guests



Baba employed to swing the doors of the treasure cave with "Open Sesame!"

expected. Curious is...who took this picture. A retired husband? The postman? An uninvited neighbor? A child home sick? What was important to these friends was this get together become a Kodak moment. Without the distractions of color, a black and white photograph draws our eyes to the details. I just noticed the McCoy vase! Would love to know what details catch your eye.



This wonderful picture is this month's complimentary vintage e-greeting. You can email it from this link [here](#).

### The Vintage Homemaker's Sticky Helper

#### LITTLE THINGS of **BIG IMPORTANCE** in Good Housekeeping

Scotch tape, the world's first cellophane tape, was invented in 1930. Everyone, from commercial businesses to farmers (who used the tape to patch cracked turkey eggs) found it useful. And no less excited with this new domestic helper was the homemaker. Suddenly, broken toys could be patched, recipes adhered to file cards without the mess of glue, coins, clippings and swatches could be attached to letters and cards, torn window shades invisibly repaired, and dress patterns could be taped to fabric. But it wasn't until 1952 that women received the ultimate in tape tidy tips, when the 3M Company's advertisement in *Better Living* magazine, extolled us to "SEAL garbage into a neat, tight package in a wink with a strip or two of Scotch tape."

### Domestic Good News!

One of my favorite aprons is this one



It makes me laugh because I picture the homemaker wearing it as she went about the chores of the day. It's a Fifties apron, and this bit of good news from a 1958 WorkBasket must have cheered her immeasurably:

*With no-iron washable fabrics increasing so rapidly, ironing may one day become obsolete!*

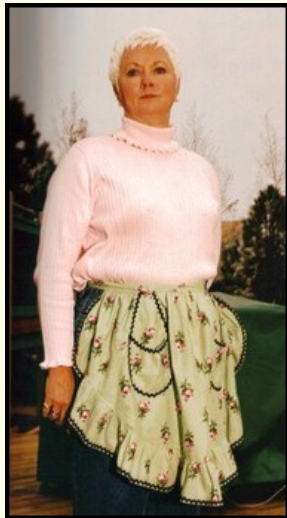
## The Apron's Legacy

### "MY LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.

I, Amy Curtis March, being in my sane mind, do give and bequeethe all my earthly property-viz, to wit: - To my mother, all my clothes, except the blue apron with pockets - also my likeness and me medal, with much love...I wish my favorite playmate Kitty Bryant to have the blue silk apron and my gold-bead ring with a kiss." from *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott (1832-1888)

In the dozen years since I began my apron journey, I've heard again and again of that moment when in clearing the home of a beloved woman's belongings, the family tossed her aprons into the trash and then set to arguing over her valuables, such as an oak armoire. Or as one storyteller shared, "I stood there clutching a tattered apron my mother-in-law had worn every day," while she watched her husband's family tear into the household goods "...like a pack of vultures."

The "goods" may seem the ultimate valuables, but down the road, the lamenting often begins, as shared by Apron Chronicles contributor, Karen Jean Spicola:



"I grew up in western Kansas in a small town of around 1000. During World War II, both my parents did their part helping with the war effort. With my mother gone until evening, my grandmother who lived next door was the one who greeted my sister and me when we came home from school. I don't recall a moment when she wasn't wearing her apron. She meant everything to us.

I take special care of this apron because its the only apron I saved from all the old stuff we got rid of after my grandmother passed away. Now my children would enjoy something from my past, and all that's left is this one apron."



### Tie One On...le tablier, of course!

Patricia Diawara is fabulously French and were you to hear her tell this story, her accent alone would



have you captivated. Her apron story begins in 1875 with a young girl, Annie Collins, and comes full circle to Annie's granddaughter and Patricia's grandmother, Mamie Jacqueline.

Two aprons figure in Patricia's story - one a delicate floral, the other a substantial denim pin stripe.

Patricia's "le tablier" story is posted [here](#).

UpDate: Since I posted Patricia's globalapron, her Parisian family and friends have left comments. Thanks to googling a request for a translation, I have

learned that *gros bisous!* means big kiss! Now to learn how to pronounce it! So much better than s.w.a.k.

The next globalapron contribution is from Italy. To share a globalapron story, please email me at [ellynne@apronmemories.com](mailto:ellynne@apronmemories.com)

### Vintage Stylin'

The DVD of Sew It All / Season 1 is available! Until my copy arrived, I hadn't yet seen my [Awesome Aprons!](#) segment, and it was with much chinging that I finally watched. Much to my surprise, I'm fine. A tad long on the drawl - always more so when I'm nervous - but otherwise, true-to-self and my happiness at being Ellen's guest is genuine.



If you'd like to see my segment, click over to my website's homepage [here](#). The inaugural season of Sew It All introduces sewing projects that run the gamut from aprons to making a pattern from a great fitting skirt without taking it apart. Ellen is an encouraging and personable hostess and her show is a half hour of lively instruction. It's a good deal.

### News from the Apron-Hood

[IceMilk Aprons](#) is Southern domestic finery designed by my friend Ashley Leckey Schoenith. Ashley's eye for detail is evident in IceMilk's sleek designs and use of subtle shades, as well as her creative packing and additives, like recipe cards. Ashley is branching out with a gorgeous children's line AND burlap market bags with vintage graphics that are charmingly nostalgic. To celebrate IceMilk's newest lines, Ashley is offering a giveaway from her market bag line. Click here to [enter](#). Deadline Detail: September 30/Friday late evening is the deadline.

I like these bags so much, I'm also running a giveaway! Enter on Apron Memories [here](#) and enter on IceMilk's site and you'll double your chances.

Shawnee's latest Flirty Apron Swap is different this go round - instead of an apron exchange, she's introducing a Fall Table Runner Swap. A Flirty Apron swap is very popular for a reason, and there's a cut-off of the number who can participate. So if this interests you, hurry over by September 30th, this swap's deadline to register. Click [here](#) for the details.

National Tie One On Day is the focus of next month's newsletter. Plus another wonderful giveaway!

Happy fall to us all.

Alrighty! xxea

