

# MaryJane's Cluck™

spring

*dreaming*

March 6, 2009

## A word from your Sisterhood Coordinator



### **Wearing My Badge Proudly!**

According to Webster, "sisterhood" is defined as "The quality of being sisterly. A congenial relationship or companionship among women with mutual esteem, concern, and support."

“She is your mirror, shining back at you with a world of possibilities. She is your witness, who sees you at your worst and best, and loves you anyway. She is your partner in crime, your midnight companion, someone who knows when you are smiling, even in the dark. She is your teacher, your defense attorney, your personal press agent, even your shrink—and some days, she’s the reason you wish you were an only child.”

- Barbara Alpert

I love Ms. Alpert's definition ... it rings true for me. There are names of my MaryJanesFarm sisters that leap to the forefront of my mind with every phrase. When I think of all the things that the MaryJanesFarm Sisterhood gives to me and all it adds to the quality of my life, I find myself asking, "What can I give back? What can I do to support the cause? What more can I do to ensure the health of the Sisterhood and the sisters in it?" And then it dawns on me ... I can be a mirror to others, a witness of unconditional love, a midnight companion. I can be willing to read between the lines and see my sister's heart, not just her typed words. I can be a teacher, a defender, and promote the brilliance in others—knowing it doesn't take away from my own light, but adds to it. I can be willing to listen and have empathy without judgment. And in those rare moments when I wish I was an only child ... I can remember all the joys I would be missing out on if we didn't have one another.

As Webster pointed out, sisterhood is "the quality of being." In our case, it isn't something that just happens, we aren't born into it ... it is the "choosing" of it, the "acting" on it, and the action of "being" a sister. I wear my MaryJanesFarm Sisterhood badge proudly and count it an honor to hold a membership there. I feel strengthened with each new badge I attempt, and I find immense pride with each sister who does the same. So for each of you sisters that have shared your successes with us on the forum, hats off ... and keep 'em coming!

*Gene' Shoem*



## Featured Farmgirls and the Guy That Digs 'Em ...

A special thanks to Dawn, Denali, Gabe, and Carol for the new look of the farmgirl newsletter—their creativity, skills, talents, and professionalism are endless. Way too often, we forget about the time and effort that goes into all the different aspects of “farmgirl” life at MaryJanesFarm—all the hours of work involved in the beautiful magazine we enjoy, the books that we learn from, the calendars that “take” us to the farm, the Farmgirl Connection, the newsletter, and more ... the list goes on and on. So, as we launch the new format of the newsletter, I wanted this issue’s “featured farmgirl” to go to this amazing group of people ... Hats off to a continued job well done! And be sure to send me your nominations for future featured farmgirls! **E-mail René** at [rene@maryjanesfarm.org](mailto:rene@maryjanesfarm.org).

A portrait of Dawn, a young woman with reddish-brown hair, wearing a green halter top and a brown cap, smiling.

Dawn

A portrait of Carol, a woman with curly blonde hair, wearing glasses, a purple flower headband, and a colorful patterned scarf, laughing.

Carol

A portrait of Gabe, a man with a beard, wearing a maroon button-down shirt, smiling.

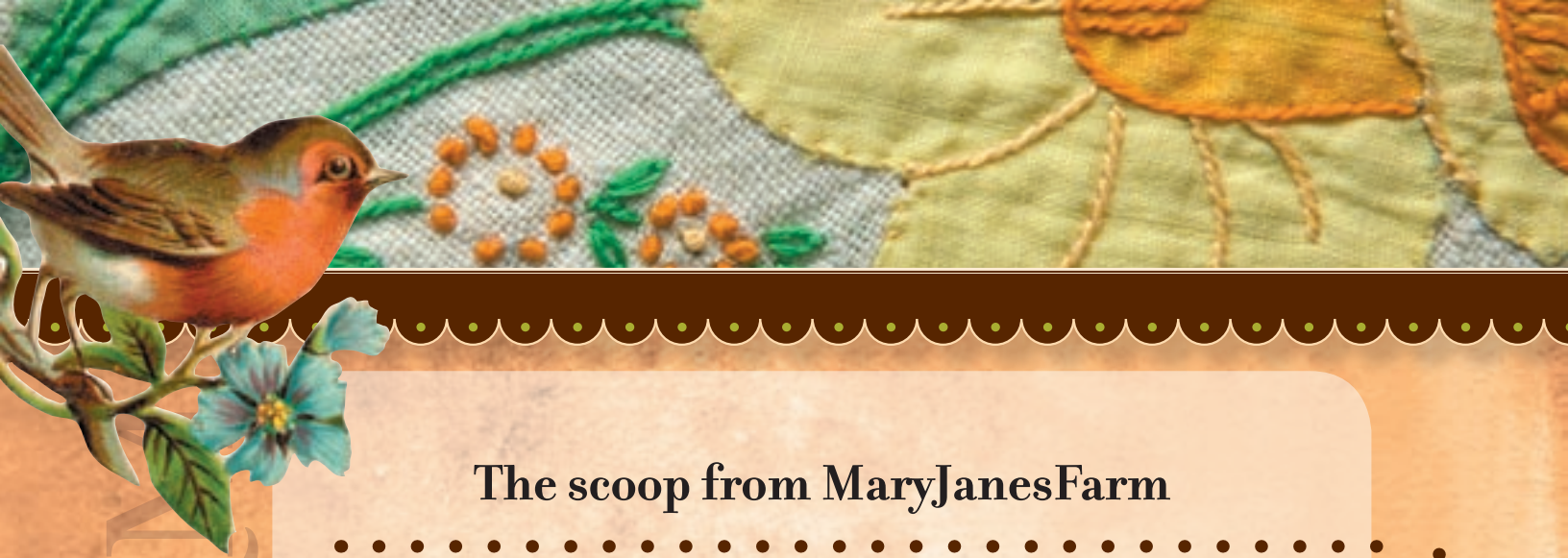
Gabe

A portrait of Denali, a woman with dark hair, wearing a straw hat and a colorful patterned top, smiling.

Denali







## The scoop from MaryJanesFarm

### Farmgirl/Henhouse/Chapter Challenge

MaryJane's 2009 4th of July Farm Fair ("Buggy, Barter, and Boogie") is just around the corner, and all the plans are coming together. We want to invite you to participate in the event whether you can be there in person or not. Sunday, July 5, MaryJane will be hosting a luncheon at Settler's Creek organic farm in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho (home of MaryJanesFarm Store). We are looking for farmgirls, chapters, and henhouses to adopt tables. You and your farmgirls will need to think up a farmgirl theme, put the items into a box, and mail them to Settler's Creek to be set up for the event. Or if you will be coming in person, feel free to bring the items with you, and we will collect them Friday night at the store. Each table seats eight guests. Make sure your farmgirl/chapter/henhouse name is boldly stated for all the guests to see. We will keep a list of farmgirls/chapters/henhouses that are adopting a table and farmgirls can sign up to sit at those tables when they register. We will have fun little prizes for the most creative table, for the chapter whose table tickets are sold first, for the most tickets sold, and more. So you will want to encourage farmgirls to sit at "your" table. Knives, folks, and cups are all provided; you just need to worry about the decorations (tablecloths, centerpieces, etc.) To get on the list, please **e-mail René** at [rene@maryjanesfarm.org](mailto:rene@maryjanesfarm.org) or leave a message on the chatroom thread **here** and I will e-mail you the address and details. Let the games begin!

Chat about your plans for the Challenge. **Click Here**

Find out more about the 2009 Farm Fair and buy tickets for the Settler's Creek event. **Click Here**

### New Farmgirl in Town!

Mia Marie arrived on February 18, 2009!! We are madly in love and enjoying each moment of wonder together. I woke up at 6 a.m. on Wednesday with clearly labor contractions. We called Mom to come stay with Stella, and I took a very quick shower. We made it to the hospital by 7:30 a.m. I had a fast wonderful labor and she arrived at 9:29 a.m. I was able to do it naturally again, and the birth of both my girls will always remind me I am capable of anything as a woman, which I know will also come in handy having two girls at certain stages of their lives. But watching Stella (Stella is 2 now) with Mia just doesn't have words. Life is so, so good. We are just lost in love and happiness and lack of sleep and couldn't be happier about it all.

MaryJane's daughter,  
Meg

See the cutest photo of Stella and baby Mia and add your congratulations **here**.







## Farmgirl Chatter

### What are Farmgirls chatting about?

Check it out at The Farmgirl Connection link [here!](#)

Happy Monday everyone! It is hard to believe that I only joined this forum and thread (Bread the MaryJane Way) at page 54 ([click here](#)). I feel like I have been here a long time and everyone has been great. Just a few comments: I was fortunate and had great luck with my first “baking day.” I used organic unbleached flour and distilled water. I did cover mine with a wet lightweight dishtowel (it is quite thin, since it has seen plenty of use). This may have led to the success of my Mother, since I live in Minnesota and the furnace has been running quite a bit this winter so the house tends to be drier. My first loaf, baked only yesterday, is gone. I take care of my 5-year-old grandson during the week. This morning when he arrived, he wanted “peanut butter bread.” I had two slices of bread remaining—

Griffin got one with peanut butter, and Grandpa got the other one with strawberry rhubarb jam. Griffin came back about two hours later wanting another slice of “peanut butter bread.” I reached for a slice of homemade yeast bread, and was told, “No, I want that other bread.” I told him I didn’t have any left, but I would make more next week. He told me he didn’t want any then, because my other bread was icky. Now I know my other bread is not icky, but I think he likes sourdough better, as does his Grandpa. I will be feeding Mother more this week. I need to bake more than one loaf of bread. So for all of you that are having a slower start—patience, it is worth the attempts and the wait. Thanks for being such an awesome group—and MaryJane, you have created a monster (a good one); I know Griffin will be asking me for “good” bread every day until I bake again.

Gail  
Farmgirl Sister #506  
A Smile a Day ...



### New Chatroom Category: Farmgirl Fashion

You asked for it, so here it is—a place to discuss farmgirl fashion, share tips and projects, ask for advice, and more. [Click Here](#)



## more chatter ...

### Farmgirl Cookbook Second Edition Now Available

**Click here** to link to the Farmgirl Connection cookbook thread!

The Farmgirl Connection Cookbook Second Edition is now available! I have two purchasing options available to you. All ordering will be done online. To access the books, you will need to click on one of the two links below depending on your purchasing option.

Option 1: Black and White Coil Bound - \$12.37 plus shipping

The first is the most economical choice. This is a 6x9 Coil bound cookbook. There are 131 pages of recipes and over 25 black and white photographs and drawings submitted by your farmgirl sisters.

**Click here** to purchase back and white edition.

Option 2: Full Color Coil Bound – \$33.45 plus shipping

This book is identical to the first except that all pictures are in full color. There are approximately 25 color pictures plus additional drawings submitted by your farmgirl sisters. The cost for this book is so much higher because when you order color printing they assume all 131 pages are in full color. I did want to offer you the option because the photographs are beautiful.

**Click here** to purchase color edition.

I would like to offer a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to this book! I HOPE I have not overlooked anyone or made any errors in this book. It was a labor of love at times but it was truly a joy putting it together. Thanks for allowing me this opportunity. ENJOY AND HAPPY COOKING!!!

### A note about paying with PayPal:

If you choose Paypal as your payment option, a new window will pop up allowing you to log into your Paypal account. You **MUST** complete this step at this time or your order will not be completed.

willowtreecreek (Julie)  
Farmgirl Sister #17

## Featured Recipe

Here's one of the MaryJanesFarm recipes featured in Julie's cookbook.

### Nested Egg Toast

Preheat oven to 325°. Butter a slice of bread and place it on a cookie sheet or ovenproof skillet. Crack an egg and separate the white from the yolk. (Be careful not to break the yolk.) Whip the egg white until firm. On a plate, mold the white into a nest using a wet spoon. With a spatula, scoop the nest onto the buttered bread. Put the yolk into the nest and bake until the nest is golden brown and the yolk is set the way your child likes it.





## Farmgirl Sisterhood News

**Merit Badge awardees:** *Woo-hoo sisters!!!*

**Click here** to go to the Farmgirl Connection merit badge awardees thread.

Carrie Meerwarth	Bee Good To Mother Earth Badge
Vicky Taylor	Stitching & Crafting Badge ~ Knitting
Debra Swan	Stitching & Crafting Badge ~ Crocheting
Jessie Yonkovit	Each Other Farmgirl Spirit Badge
	Stitching & Crafting Apron Badge
Janie Edwards	Stitching & Crafting Button Up Badge
Karen Bates	Stitching & Crafting Embroidery Badge
	Stitching & Crafting Quilting Badges
Gail Springman	Stitching & Crafting Apron Badges



### The Farmgirl Sisterhood and Henhouse How-To

If you have any questions about the Sisterhood and the Henhouses, please **e-mail us** at [farmgirlsissterhood@maryjanesfarm.org](mailto:farmgirlsissterhood@maryjanesfarm.org).

We're up to **476** Sisterhood members! **Click Here**

And **25** Farmgirl Chapters Henhouses! **Click Here**

**Sign up** for Farmgirl Sisterhood membership. **Click Here**

This "strike anywhere" glam match jar was made for us by Kimberly, a bed and breakfast guest. Check out her website to find other glamorous gifts to buy!

**[www.bohemianidirt.com](http://www.bohemianidirt.com)**





## the clucking continues ...

### Henkeeping ...

Once you're an official sister, **e-mail us** at [farmgirlsissterhood@maryjanesfarm.org](mailto:farmgirlsissterhood@maryjanesfarm.org) and we'll set you up for "henkeeping" in one or more Henhouse Chapters. (**Click here** to go to the henhouses.) You could even start a new Henhouse that's tailored to your specific interests. It's easy, free, and you don't have to work to gather up members; they'll just migrate right on in!

Have you finished a Merit Badge project? If so, apply for your badge: **Click Here**. MaryJane will post your pics on the Farmgirl Connection, where you can also check out other sisters' accomplishments. **Click here** to see what the sisters have been up to. If you want to learn more about earning badges, **click here**.



## Magazines, Books, and More

### April/May 2009 issue of *MaryJane's Farm*

Our April/May issue, Glamour Camping, is due to hit newsstands on March 17, and is being shipped to subscribers now. In it, you'll find lots of recipes for summer's first crops (organic of course!), a feature article about Sisters on the Fly, lots of gardening (including a how-to for a "moveable garden"), and projects that include a quilted bath mat, crocheted and knitted rugs, an oilcloth tablecloth, and even a portable "glamping cot." You'll also find a fun article titled "Farmgirl Buzz: I feel most like a farmgirl when ..." featuring quotes from our Farmgirl Connection members.

**Click here** to Subscribe to MaryJane's Farm magazine.



## Magazines, Books, and More continues ...

### MaryJanesFarm 2009 Calendar

There's still time to get your third annual MaryJanesFarm Calendar! Each month's top page features a full-color image from our farm and each calendar page includes dates, holidays, inspirational sayings, lunar phases and fabulous farmgirl culture. This is a Project F.A.R.M. (First-class American Rural Made) product. All 26 pages are printed here at the farm on 8.5"x 11" card stock and are bound with black spiral wire—unfolds to approximately 17" high by 11" wide. \$10. [Click here](#) to order it!



### MaryJane's Everyday Organic" Newspaper Column

Want to help MaryJane spread the farmgirl spirit? Get in touch with your local newspaper (letter, phone call, visit) and nudge them into carrying her column, "MaryJane's Everyday Organic." Let them know you're on board and why—that you're someone who cares, who dares, and most importantly, who loves to share what MaryJane represents for you; that you want to see more of what MaryJane has put voice to; that her simple solutions for buying less, eating better, and getting more out of life are something you'd like to see them carry.

#### Here's the little bit of info you'll need:

"MaryJane's Everyday Organic" weekly column is distributed by United Feature Syndicate, the same people who bring you features like Miss Manners, Sense & Sensitivity, Animal Doctor, Peanuts, and Dilbert. Newspapers can **e-mail** [lwilson@unitedmedia.com](mailto:lwilson@unitedmedia.com) to find out more. Good luck, and let MaryJane know WHO you contacted and WHEN by **dropping her a line** at [column@maryjanesfarm.org](mailto:column@maryjanesfarm.org).

#### "MaryJane's Everyday Organic" is running in The Salt Lake Tribune!

Check it out online every Thursday. [Click Here](#)

And you can look at the "More Home News" list on the left side of the page to read past columns.



## Magazines, Books, and More continues ...

### Magazine "Goodies" on the MJF Website:

"For those who are looking for the Magazine portion of the website, here is the place to find additional patterns, instructions, recipes and such! Yum!"

~ Alee, Farmgirl Sister #8

To find the goodies, **click here!**

### Gift Items ...

Inspire yourself or inspire a friend with books, journals, note cards, and other gifts from MaryJane. From the kitchen to the campfire, there's something special here for every farmgirl-at-heart.

**Click here** to shop on our website.

And don't forget to visit our "Product Shop" ... **Click Here**

There, you'll find everything from organic bed sheets to beautiful bed sets to aprons to dolls to candles to chocolate to over 60 instant or quick-prep meals and desserts to much, much more!



René Groom, Sisterhood Coordinator

MaryJanesFarm • Moscow, Idaho

You can contact René on her cell 509-778-1494 or her office phone 509-786-2887

or **e-mail her** at [rene@maryjanesfarm.org](mailto:rene@maryjanesfarm.org).

**Over 754 Farmgirl Chapters in 48 states and 7 countries  
and 25 Henhouses with 476 Sisterhood members ~  
growing stronger every day!**