

# MaryJane's Cluck™

get your

*garden* on

## June 1, 2009



### A word from your Sisterhood Coordinator

#### All a Twitter ...

It is official. I am a Twit!

Oh wait, that can't be right! Well anyway, I have taken on the world of Twitter. Not that I have all that much to say, but it is fun to know that in the world of Twitter, you have those people that are following you—and you follow them. It is a great little business tool, as it keeps your information out in front of others. I recently sat in an ag tourism meeting where a gal was promoting Twitter, touting its many advantages. I find I enjoy knowing some of the things that I get through Twitter. Like gardengoose Tina Wilson's latest adventure, or where Willie Nelson or Sara Bareilles are performing, or the 1001 meetings that Wendi of Frameworks has for the week. It brings a little smile to my heart that as I go about my day, there are others going about theirs and though we are separated by the miles, we are yet somehow connected for the brief moment. I have had some of the funniest e-mail responses from people I never would have "met," and I've never laughed harder. I am, however, relieved to know that, no, I am not a twit, but rather a tweeter. And the fact that I love Twitter makes me, at 46, twitterpated! (Shhh, don't tell my husband!)

Wondering which other farmgirls are tweeting? **Check here.**

Considering adding Twitter to your business plan for your merit badge? **Click here for more details.**

*Gene' Shoom*





## Featured Farmgirl

Karen L. Bates



**Family:** I have two children: Tracy, 33, and Darin, 41.

I have three grandchildren: Austin, 15, and Mercedes, 18, and Tracy's Grayson, who is about 2 weeks.

**Married?** Yes, for three years.

**How long have you been a farmgirl?** About a year, officially, but I think it started when I was 8 weeks old. My folks left Seattle with the intention of settling on my father's family farm, and while we were just getting settled, things did not work out and we returned to Seattle. I believe that is probably when I really became a farmgirl (at heart).

**Did you grow up on a farm? Any childhood memories you'd like to share?** I am a city girl, born and bred. I was the oldest and had three brothers. I use to run around the neighborhood with my oldest brother and his friend playing cowboys and Indians (I never got to be a cowboy). I was a tried-and-true tomboy, thus my farmgirl roots were born!

When I was around 9, I informed my parents that my brother and I were going to run away the next day. So the next morning, as everyone was moving about, we rushed off down the street to a wooded area next to a church and hid in the bushes. Fairly soon, we decided we were hungry—apparently, I had chosen to run away on a holiday ... oops! We lived in the University District where there were lots of stores, so I sent my brother, who was 7 (hmmm, this sounds like I might have been taking advantage of his age), off to the only store open, a bakery. We got bored pretty fast, and I sent him home and went to my girlfriend's. Needless to say, our parents had not believed me when I said we would run away, so I got into a lot of trouble (darn good spanking, as I stayed away most of the day). Gee, I told them I was going ... I think this cemented my love of the out-of-doors at an early age!

At the age of 19, I got married and moved to Wenatchee, where my son was born in 1968. It was a town of about 18,000 in the mid '60s and it is surrounded by mountains, thus it has a very country feel. I loved it. As always, I continued to make my own clothes as well as garments for my family. In the mid '70s, I moved back to Seattle and worked as a manager at Rumpelstiltskin's (imported fabrics, yarn, and needlework) at Northgate, South Center, and Bellevue malls. It was a blast! I learned lots of crafts, rug hooking, knitting, cross-stitch, embroidery, rag-rug making, and more. And in 1976, my daughter, Tracy, was born and I became a stay-at-home mom and later moved to Spokane, Washington.

**Favorite Farmgirl Activity:** Being in the out-of-doors, whether it is painting a house, gardening, camping, reading a book ... just do it outside!!

**Favorite farmgirl project:** Since I retired from Karen's Painting, I have finally had time to sew anything I wanted. And boy did I! I started making totes (not my pattern) to use for grocery shopping, and the next thing I knew, my sewing room was full of them! Lol :D Then I started on eyeglass cases. And when I saw MaryJane's badges, I decided to try and learn a new skill: crochet! I taught myself and went to town! Because of MaryJane's Farmgirl Connection, I now sell all these items and more in my two Etsy shops: [www.kpaints.etsy.com](http://www.kpaints.etsy.com) and [www.thevintagebaglady.etsy.com](http://www.thevintagebaglady.etsy.com) and you can see some of my totes on my blog as well: [thecheneybaglady.blogspot.com](http://thecheneybaglady.blogspot.com).

**What flower (or color) represents you best and why:** I am not sure, but I have always loved carnations. They smell so wonderful and last forever. I guess I have a kind of stick-to-it-ive-ness.





## The scoop from MaryJanesFarm

Did you get your tickets purchased for Sunday, July 5, at Settler's Creek?

Time is a-ticking. **For more details, click here.**

**Pay Dirt Farm School classes being offered:**

Laid-back Appliqué with Rebekah and Katy. For class information, **click here.**

To view additional Pay Dirt classes, please **click here.**

### Farmgirl Collection Fabric

Hi everyone!  
Is there any chance that we will be getting a sneak preview of the new line of fabric that MaryJane and Andover fabrics are putting out? I don't think I can wait until June to see it! Please!!!!

Cathy (homergirl1957)

**Click here to read the thread.**





## The farm scoop continues ...

### New MaryJanesFarm Store Open in Moscow??

So I was driving through Moscow the other day (fairly typical, as I live in Palouse) and out of the corner of my eye, I thought I saw a red and white store sign with the name MaryJane and something else. I believe it was in the area down by the farmers' market. Now rather than risk a car accident, I kept my eyes and car on the road. I know there has been talk of a new store opening in Moscow, but I can't find anything on the website about it. Can this be it? Does anyone know if the Moscow store is open yet and perhaps what the hours might be?

AlyssaMarie @ Link'd Hearts Ranch  
Does the "grapevine" have this one right?

**Read here to find out more.**



### June Holidays

June 1	International Children's Day
June 5	World Environment Day
June 14	Family History Day & Flag Day
June 21	Summer Solstice: First Day of Summer & Fathers' Day
June 27	Great American Backyard Campout

For more details on fun days you might not know about, **[click here](#)**.





## Farmgirl Chatter

**What are farmgirls chatting about?**

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

### Welcome Wagon

So many New Farmgirls ~ Welcome to you all!

**Check them all out [here](#).**



### Across the Fence

Hi Mavens and all the other Farmgirls I have become friends with.

I am starting this thread because I miss all my Maven Sisters!!! We used to all visit with each other over on the DOE thread, and now that we decided the DOE thread was just for heirlooms/gardening we aren't visiting like we used to ... but I miss visiting with you girls!!!! So, here's the plan: I want y'all to come and visit and pull up a chair in front of the wood burner, and I'll make you a cup 'a tea, maybe pull a few cookies out of the freezer, and we'll visit. We can share our joys, tears, and projects!

Well, I'm getting ready to take a trip to Nevada tomorrow, be back Monday, and I was going to start this thread then, but I received some really good news and, of course, I have to share it with y'all!!! My daughter, Autumn, and her husband, Ruben, just got the news today that the twin foster children they have had are up for adoption and they are starting that process tomorrow!!! I'm going to be Grandma again!

Oh, and my rhubarb is starting to come up spring can't be far away!! I'll talk to y'all next week when I get back—love ya!

P.S. I found this great quote and I have to share it with you.

"I make myself rich by making my wants few." -HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Teresa Sue  
Farmgirl Sister #316  
Planting Zone 3

**For more "garden talk," [click here](#).**



## the chatter continues ...

### Barnyard Buddies

I just went out to check on Faith, who looked like she was going to kid yesterday, and she just got done having 2 cute little bucklings about 7:30 a.m. One is white like the daddy and the other is just exactly like her. All black with the tan stripes on his head and a little on his legs and belly. They both have gopher ears, too! So cute! But boys ... oh well.

So here we go. Last year we had 5 bucks and only 3 does. I was hoping to have more girls this year. The others are still up front showing no signs of having theirs yet. This is day 153, so we could still have a ways to go.

This is just too exiting! I love kidding time on the farm. When my daughter, Abby, gets home tonight I will get her to put pictures on Photobucket for me so y'all can see the little cuties.

I know I saw on someone's blog where they were naming their kids after characters on Lonesome Dove. I had been thinking about doing that, too. So I hope you don't think I'm a copy-cat namer, but these 2 are just asking to be called Gus and Woodrow. That's my hubby's favorite movie ever, and we will probably keep these guys. I want to train them how to pull a cart and they look like they'll be able to.

So here we go!!!! (And her udder is HUGE!)

Kris  
Kristin Sherrill



### Hogs & Quiches

To jump into the ongoing challenges to "take care of self," [click here](#).

"It is insane how the caregivers give and give to everyone but themselves."

Heide  
Nude Food Farm ~ grown so good, dressing is optional.





## even more chatter ...

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### Home Safe Home ~ Weekly Green Housekeeping Recipes

Okay, time to get ready. I thought I would first give a list of ingredients for you to purchase so that you will have everything you need and be ready to go.

You will want to have: half-gallon and gallon jars or something similar, spray bottles for liquid cleaners, and measuring cups, as well as big bowls and spoons for mixing, a grater, and labels for your containers.

You will need: Borax (20 mule train) laundry booster, baking soda, washing soda, Castile soap (liquid and bar), distilled water, white vinegar, apple cider vinegar, salt, lemon juice, olive oil, ammonia, and essential oils: Lavender (repels insects), Tree Tea (antibacterial and fungicide), Lemon, Orange, or Tangerine (grease cutters).

This should do it. Happy Greening!

Julia  
#440

For more details on cleaning green, [click here](#).



### Gathering Up

We are hosting our 2nd annual Prosserfarmchick "Farmgirl Round up" June 13 at our Prosser Farmers' Market. We'd love to have you come out and join us. We will be hosting a table at the market selling things that farmgirls make, bake, write, paint, or what-have-ya, so if you wanna come on down ... be a part of the vendors or just come and play, **e-mail me** and I will send the details!

René (prosserfarmgirl)



## Featured Recipe

From *MaryJane's*  
*Ideabook • Cookbook • Lifebook*

### Very Berry Salsa

- 1 cup fresh strawberries, stemmed and quartered
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 cup fresh raspberries
- 1 cup fresh tomatoes, diced
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- 3 tablespoons red onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon honey
- Juice and zest of 1 orange
- Salt to taste



In the summer at my farm, I have blueberries, strawberries, raspberries and tomatoes. My Very Berry Salsa is delicious served chilled over a mound of cottage cheese on a bed of lettuce.







## Farmgirl Sisterhood News

OK, a funny thing happened as I finally decided to apply for the folder full of badge applications I was holding onto. When Gabe finally got to mine in the pile ... I sort of backed him up. As I had saved WAY too many and handed them all in at once, bottle-necking the process. Sorry! So for those other farmgirls waiting for their badges too ... "Double sorry." I have learned my lesson and will submit fewer at one time. Of course, "fewer" still leaves me a lot of wiggle room! hee-hee ... actually, don't try this at home....

You can check out what caused the pile-up [here](#).

### Farmgirl Philanthropy ~ Hen House with TheresaB

Well, the second quarter of 2009 is almost half over ... so, to kick things off, I think the first official project of 2009 should be barnagainkristin's (Kris) project found [here](#).

Wool hats, knit or crochet, for infants. Circumference of the hats should be approx. 16.5 inches at the base. I'll go see if I can get her over here!

TheresaB Proud Farmgirl Sister #124 Farmgirl Philanthropy Chapter Leader

### HOW2 Farmchicks ~ HenHouse

The Prosser Farmchicks are going to do a repeat performance of their "Farmgirl Round-Up" and we would love to have any Washington farmgirls that want to come. It will be at 10 a.m. June 13, at Prosser City Park. For more info, please call René at 1•509•778•1494.

### MJ's Heirloom Mavens

Okay. The first annual Heirloom Maven Spring Fling and Farmgirl Round-Up will be held ... drum roll please ... May 22-25, 2009 in Nova, Ohio, For more info, e-mail Deeredawn at [farmgirl@novadsl.net](mailto:farmgirl@novadsl.net).



## the clucking continues ...

### Farmgirl Chapter Henhouses

Here's where official members of the Farmgirl Sisterhood have set up "henkeeping" in our online "Henhouses." Our Henhouses give chapter members a place to meet online to chat, post photos, share instructions, tutorials, and more just for their own chapter. Each Henhouse has a "Bulletin Board," where a designated "Head Hencho" for that chapter posts chapter announcements and events. Even if you aren't a member, you can view these sites (go directly to the discussions without trying to type in a password at the top), but only official Farmgirl Sisterhood members will have access to post in their chapter's cyber Henhouse.

**Click here** to purchase your Sisterhood membership. If you're already a Sisterhood member and love to display your Sisterhood certificate, you'll really love our second and third-year renewal certificates! In fact, some of our Sisters have even purchased their renewals in advance to get theirs!







## Magazines, Books, and More

### June/July 2009 issue of *MaryJanesFarm*

Our June/July issue, Plum-Easy, came out in newsstands on May 19. In it, you'll find lots of summer living ideas, plum-easy recipes, our unique 3-bite burger meals, quilty pleasures, square-foot gardening, and more.

[Click here](#) to subscribe to *MaryJanesFarm* magazine.

### 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 our gift items.

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

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**Over 872 Farmgirl Chapters in 48 states and 7 countries  
and 29 Henhouses with 589 Sisterhood members ~  
growing stronger every day!**