



MaryJane's Cluck™

Harvest time

September 1, 2009

MARYJANES FARM

A word from your Sisterhood Coordinator ...

Falling Into Fall ...

It is hard to believe that fall is about here again, bringing with it back-to-school nights, schedules, and cooler evenings. I have been "nesting" the last few weeks, I guess preparing for fall and winter to roll in, by getting all my "ducks in a row." I have been organizing and tossing things out and sending things to the second-hand and consignment stores. I have even been making a list of projects I want to get done this year. It seems there are more badges to earn and more trades to learn!

Soon we will all be back at the sewing machines and back honing our bread making skills. I anticipate that this will be a fun year for those of us in the Sisterhood as we keep our friendly competitions going, fueling the fun. Gabe recently pointed out that I haven't submitted many badge applications from the kitchen—so; I guess that is one of the places you will find me this fall.

For more info on the Sisterhood badge requirements please [click here](#).

Gene' Shoom





The Scoop from MaryJanesFarm



MaryJanesFarm Store in Coeur d'Alene is celebrating its one-year anniversary! If you haven't yet visited the store, stop in and say "Happy Anniversary!" The store is located at 210 E. Sherman in the Plaza Shops, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, right across from the Coeur d'Alene Resort.

“He who loves a garden still his Eden keeps, perennial pleasures plants, and wholesome harvest reaps.”

– Amos Bronson Alcott

Pay Dirt Farm School Classes

Pay Dirt Farm School is our non-profit educational program offering farm apprenticeships and classes in farming and gardening, stitching, crafting, cooking, and more. The program provides practical experience for individuals who value common sense and introduces them to the operations of an organic farm. The school's mission is to cultivate organic farmers and eaters. The school was founded with the belief that the elimination of deadly pesticides, herbicides, and chemical fertilizers, along with the maintenance of healthy living soil and the rebuilding of local communities, all play a major role in the development of individuals whose thoughts, dreams and actions create positive change. Pay Dirt classes are now being offered at both the Coeur d'Alene store and the Moscow store, as well as at the farm.

The next Pay Dirt Farm School class, “Freehand Embroidery,” will be held at MaryJane's Sweet Dreams Store in Moscow on Sept. 12. **Click here** for all the details.

On Sept. 26, farmgirl Kate Jaeckel will be hosting a class called “The Art of Creative Body Care” at her farm in Moscow ... find details **here**.

For a complete list of classes for 2009, **click here**.



Farmgirl Chatter

What are farmgirls chatting about?

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

Welcome Wagon

In the last month we have welcomed new farmgirls from South Indiana, Magnolia TX, Moscow ID, Carthage MO, Kansas City MO, Midlothian IL, Rexburg ID, New York City, Canada, Florida, Minnesota, and Newman Lake WA ... just to name a few ... [Click here](#) to wish all the new farmgirls a BIG HELLO!

A Farm of My Own

Empowering Women, posted by KD Earthwork

I think the thing I find so admirable about MaryJane is that she is a woman doing all this successful business. She is not a follower. She is not afraid to go it alone. Even out in the wilderness or into the totally uncharted area of bigger than big business.

I was just reading about the woman who wanted to homestead but her husband wasn't sure since it put him in the role of sole breadwinner. How do we rethink these times and labels? I think it becomes much harder once we become mothers—we tend to want what our mothers had or want to limit our potential to before or after the kids. We don't challenge ourselves to achieve our dreams. We are raised to fulfill others' dreams—to follow, not lead. How do we gain the skills little by little to empower ourselves? To be able to make happen whatever we dream of and more. I'm not saying I don't want or have a great relationship. But isn't this more possible if we know ourselves and are happy with our lives, fulfilling our dreams?

[Click here](#) to read more about how we are all empowering each other.

“The world needs *dreamers* and the world needs *doers*. But above all, the world needs *dreamers* who *do*. ”

— Sarah Ban Breathnach





the chatter continues ...

Across the Fence

The Lost Art of Letter Writing, posted by Gaelic Gardener

I love this discussion board and I love hearing from everyone electronically, but I miss actual written letters. Would anyone else like to be pen pals? I propose that we post little blurbs about ourselves here and then if others have similar interests, they can e-mail you and ask for your snail mail address. Wouldn't it be nice to get something pleasant and personal (and not a bill!) in the mail?

If you are feeling the same way, you can hook up with a pen pal [here](#).

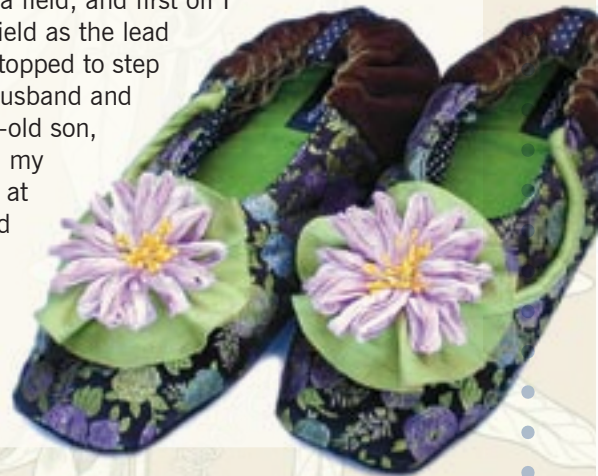
PNW Wheat Harvest Begins, posted by Amy Warwick

My husband is a wheat farmer in the extreme part of eastern Washington. We farm 2,700 acres of wheat, barely, lentils, and peas. He does this all with the assistance of one hired hand and part-time help from his father and me.

My husband has often commented about how much he misses the days of old when the women cooked and brought meals to the field and everyone took a couple of hours off to sup together. Since I have five kids and a job of my own, he has never expected that of me. So, this year, I surprised him by taking time off from my normal job to be the real-deal old-fashioned farm wife for harvest. I will drive truck part-time, go on parts runs, flag the combines, cook all of the meals, make the crew lunches, and on Sundays (only) I will even take hot meals of fried chicken or pulled pork sandwiches, mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, pie, and iced tea or cold lemonade to the field where my five children and I will set up "dinner" for the whole crew. Since I won't be able to work outside of the farm, I thought I would blog about my farm wife experiences for anyone interested in the trials and tribulations of life on a northwest wheat farm.

We started last night by flagging three combines out to our pea field, and first off I missed the most fantastic pictures. My husband cut into the field as the lead combine with the other two following suit, and then they all stopped to step out on the deck of the combine. On deck number 1 was my husband and 11-year-old son, on deck 2 was my hired man and my 4-year-old son, and directly behind them on deck 3 was my father-in-law and my daughter all standing colorfully in a row. They were all staring at the job ahead of them with excitement and unity, clapping and overjoyed that we were finally in the field. I WILL remember my camera today and post some photos of our harvest for anyone who is interested.

To follow the adventure. [click here](#).





the chatter continues ...

Across the Fence

If you _____, you must be a FARMGIRL, posted by Contrary Wife

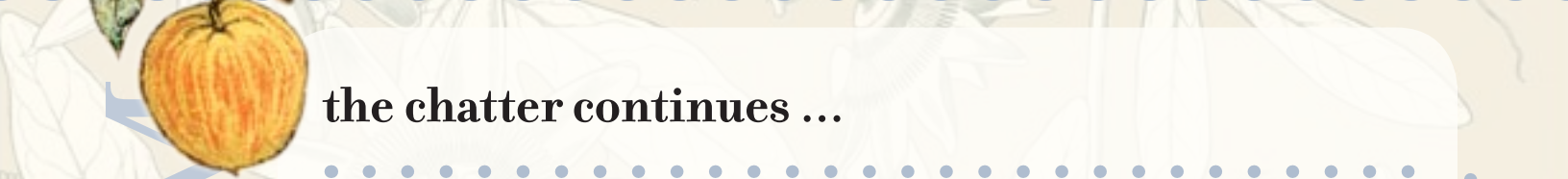
If you covet those knee-high rubber boots at Big R (or Tractor Supply), you must be a FARMGIRL. If you love the peaceful sounds of your animals settling in for the night in the barn, you must be a FARMGIRL. If you get excited to go to Home Depot, you must be a FARMGIRL. If you think about your home-grown beef in the freezer like most people think about vintage wine, you must be a FARMGIRL. If you stand in your garden and eat your very fresh dinner, right there on the spot, you must be a FARMGIRL. If you think hanging your laundry out on the line is a privilege, you must be a FARMGIRL. If you think nothing of canning 110 quarts of peaches, turning around the next day and doing the same with pears, you must be a FARMGIRL. If you consider watching the chickens and pigs while you eat (Dinner Theatre), you must be a FARMGIRL. If your grandson tells you, "Grandma, if you took your cinnamon rolls to the fair, you'd get a blue ribbon," you must be a FARMGIRL. If you just roll up your sleeves, tie on an apron, and tackle that job to be done, you must be a FARMGIRL.

Okay, I could sit here all day and think these up, but I have to go to work, so help me out here! LOL!!

Wondering what the other farmgirls wrote? [Click here.](#)



*you must be
a farmgirl!*



the chatter continues ...

Entrepreneurship

New Endeavor: Professional Organizer, posted by KansasCowGirrrl

Hi Farmgirls! I have finally taken the plunge and started my own professional organizing business. It's something I've always had a knack for and did well in the corporate world as a business process manager.

I've also helped friends and family members organize their homes, especially kitchens, file systems, and computer files and taught them to keep everything in order. I am in the process of taking before and after photos to add to my website.

This is so exciting for me; I just wanted to share my news!

Follow her journey [here](#).



Farmgirl Birthdays, posted by Megan Rae

Want to know who is celebrating a birthday in September? [Click here](#) and Megan will tell you.

Gathered Up

Farmgirl Round-ups, posted by RuralFarmgirl

We have had so many wonderful ideas and plans circling around lately of farmgirls organizing "Round-ups" that I wanted to try to post them all in ONE Location. You can [click here](#) for more details.

Featured Recipe

From *MaryJane's
Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook*



MaryJane's Sunrise Pink ChillOver

- 2 12-oz bottles of Izze Sparkling Grapefruit Juice
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 packet ChillOver Powder

Blend together 1 bottle of grapefruit drink and the sugar and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium, sprinkle and stir ChillOver Powder into liquid, and cook for 3 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove from heat.

Stir in second bottle of grapefruit drink. Pour into a serving dish and chill until firm, about 2 hours. Garnish as desired.

Yield: 6 servings

Find more ChillOver recipes in *MaryJane's Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook*



Farmgirl Sisterhood News



Merit Badges

Gabe sent me an e-mail saying that 41 badges were sent in for approval, but because we have him running in every direction, he hasn't had a minute to get to them ... SO GREAT JOB, FARMGIRLS! Look for a list in the next newsletter. And keep 'em coming—Gabe will get all caught up in no time ... I sent him a “round-tu-it” in the mail—that should help!

Henhouses

Things are heating up in the henhouses! If you want to join in on any of the henhouse discussions, please e-mail Brian at the farm and ask him to add you to the henhouse of your choice. Henhouses are open to all Sisterhood members, but you need to have a “key” to participate, and Brian is Keeper of Keys: brianogle@maryjanesfarm.org.

You could join together with other Sisterhood members in groups like:

- A Bunch of Country Swappin' Gals
- Aprons of the Adirondacks
- Back to the Land
- Bees Without Borders
- City Chicks & Friends
- Farmgirl Philanthropy
- Gluten Free Farmgirls
- Junkin' Farmgirls
- The Book Worms
- The Writers Nook

and more ... or start your own!

Check out the henhouses [here](#).



Our Henhouses give Farmgirl Chapter members who become part of the official Farmgirl Sisterhood a place to meet online to chat; post photos; and share instructions, tutorials, and more for just their own chapter.



Magazines, Books, and More

October/November 2009 issue of *MaryJane's Farm*

Our October/November issue, Tried-n-True, has started shipping to subscribers and will be on newsstands September 15. In it, you'll learn to make homemade crackers and yogurt, relive our Farm Fair with beautiful photos, make a backyard wildlife sanctuary, restore your heirloom quilts, and more.

[Click here](#) to subscribe to *MaryJane's Farm* magazine.

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!](#)

"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 to find out more. Good luck, and let MaryJane know WHO you contacted and WHEN by **dropping her a line** at 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 ...

SPECIAL: 3-Book Bundle

MaryJane's books are all bundled up for fall reading. Buy them together and save \$15! *MaryJane's Ideabook, Cookbook, Lifebook; MaryJane's Stitching Room; and MaryJane's Outpost.* **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

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or **e-mail her** at rene@maryjanesfarm.org.

**Over 856 Farmgirl Chapters in 48 states and 7 countries
and 36 Henhouses with 721 Sisterhood members ~
growing stronger every day!**