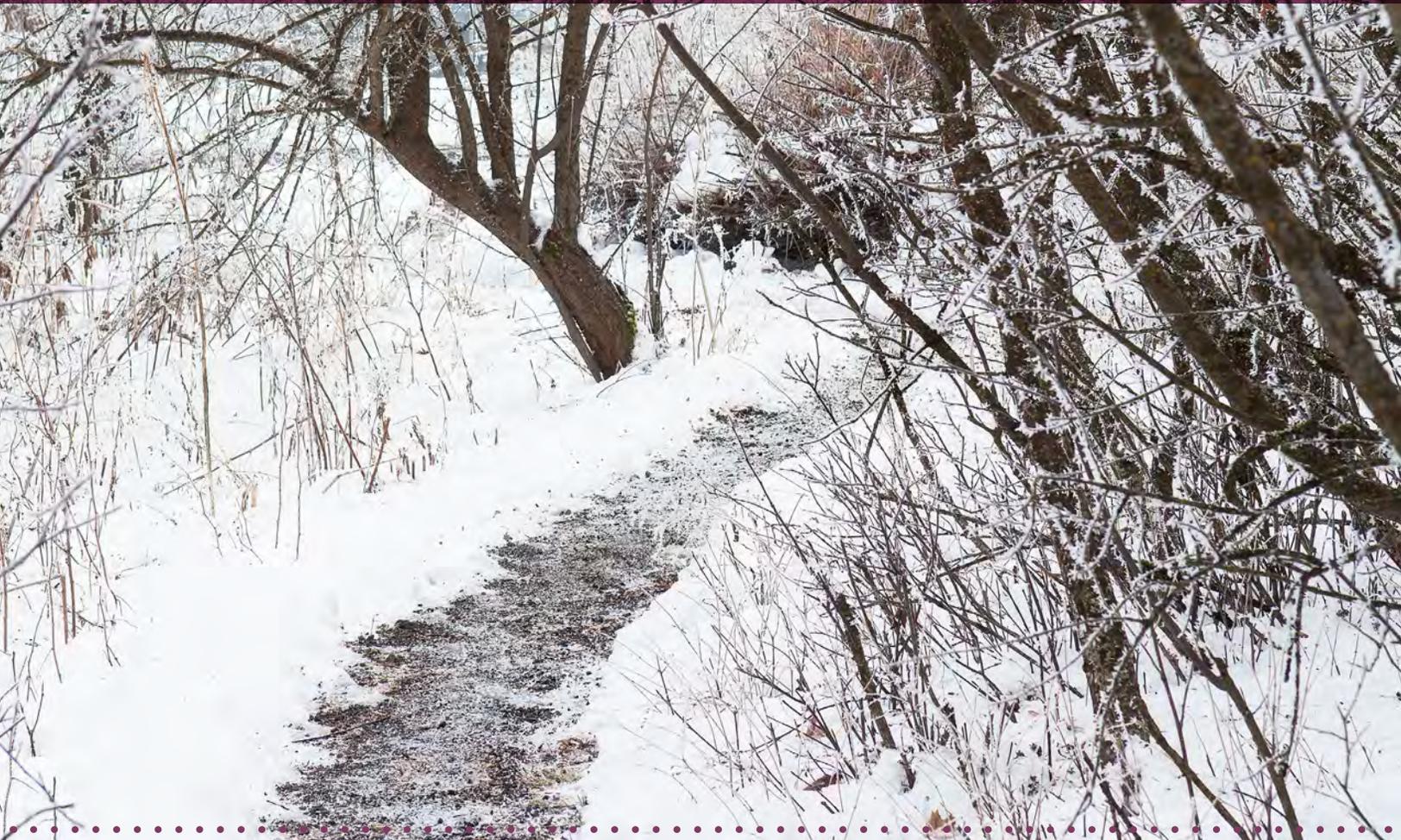


# MARYJANES FARM

Sister Issue | January 2023



With some added pluck,

we came up with this easy way to click (er, cluck) your way back to the farm in between magazine issues. As with any fertile hen, we prefer to accomplish our work with regularity, on a daily basis. That's why, if you sign up to join our chatroom, **The Farmgirl Connection**, you'll be chatting away in no time, reading about each month's Farmgirl of the Month, joining swaps, bartering and bargaining all things collectible, and celebrating things like Apple Pie Sunday and Farmgirl Jubilee. Together, we find our way back to our farmgirl roots, back to healthful eating, and starward to our dreams. A sisterly cyber hug awaits you. Subscribe, join in, and sign up today!

"Hear! Hear! screamed the jay from a neighboring tree, where I had heard a tittering for some time, 'winter has a concentrated and nutty kernel, if you know where to look for it.'"

– Henry David Thoreau

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– MaryJane Butters of MaryJanesFarm



Hello from Sister #1,  
True-Blue Farmgirl MaryJane

Once again, I've been given the honor of introducing you to our Farmgirl Sister of the Year for 2023. (Thank you, Candy Hogan, for your service as our 2022 Farmgirl Sister of the Year!) We are honored to share with you Karen Martell (jokamartell), Kennewick, WA, Farmgirl Sister #8422.

*MaryJane* 

## Farmgirl Sister of the Year 2023

**QUESTION:** Tell us a little about your background and when and how you discovered MaryJanesFarm and the Sisterhood.

ANSWER: I grew up in a small town located at the base of the Cascade Mountains. I met my husband, John, my freshman year in college, married him two years later, and upon John's college graduation, moved back to his hometown of Kennewick, Washington. We still live in our "starter" house of 960 square feet, where we raised our two daughters. My first *MaryJanesFarm* magazine was a gift from John. He found it at the grocery store and purchased it for me. That was about 15 years ago. I would always read the page about the Sisterhood. I loved the idea of belonging to a group of like-minded people. In the fall of 2021, my employer permanently closed their doors and I found myself in early retirement. I became a member of the Sisterhood in January 2021.



KAREN MARTELL

**QUESTION:** What made you decide to start earning Merit Badges?

ANSWER: I have always been a gold sticky-star kind of girl! The feeling of accomplishment when finishing a task is even sweeter when there is a reward at the end. I love to learn new things and expand my knowledge. The Merit Badges give me that accomplished feeling and my skill base is growing.



continued...



**QUESTION: What was the first Merit Badge you earned? How many have you earned so far?**

ANSWER: The first Merit Badge that I earned was in Shopping Green in the Cleaning Up section. Since joining the Sisterhood, I've earned nine total Merit Badges. I am looking forward to earning many more.

**QUESTION: What is your favorite way to spend a day off? Do you garden? Sew? Hobbies?**

ANSWER: It's hard to choose just one favorite way to spend a day off. John and I love to go on road trips together. The destination isn't really important. We just love to jump in the car and spend time together. I also love to craft ... paper crafting, sewing, quilting, tending flowers, DIY projects, and reading. My favorite place to read is outside on my swing!

**QUESTION: What traditions have been passed down in your family?**

ANSWER: As a child, I was taught to rework and recycle items into new creations, to use up what we had on hand, and to leave things better than I found them. Growing up, my family didn't really have traditions. Because I grew up without any real traditions, I wanted more for my girls. Many of my family's traditions are centered around family and holidays; cinnamon rolls every Christmas morning, pumpkin-patch trips in the fall, gardening together during the summer, spending the 4th of July camping at Waitt's Lake with extended family. Spending time with family is a tradition that I hope my girls will continue.

**QUESTION: What are three things that show up most on your to-do list?**

ANSWER: The three things that show up most of my to-do list are dusting/vacuuming (thanks to three small dogs and four inside cats!), weeding flowerbeds and gardens, and organizing and tidying my office/craft room.

**QUESTION: Do you have a favorite book? How about a favorite movie? What type of music suits you best?**

ANSWER: I can't pick a favorite book ... there are just too many! My favorite genre is historical romance, though. I especially like the mail-order bride theme, as well as stories that take place during World War II. I am not much of a movie girl. I would rather watch sports (college football and college softball are my favorites) or true crime dramas, LOL. However, my favorite movie is Top Gun. As for music, I love classic '80s music and '80s/'90s country.





## New Merit Badge - January 2023

To print our new 2023 Merit Badge, [click here](#). All Merit Badge Planners sold in 2023 will have our new 2023 Merit Badge incorporated. If you've bought a planner in the past, we'll send you a link via email so you can print the new pages to add to your existing planner. If you have any questions, write to [ashley@maryjanesfarm.org](mailto:ashley@maryjanesfarm.org).

### Each Other: Lost Art of Letter Writing

#### Beginner Level

- Create a letter writing box/station with envelopes, stationary, cards, stamps, favorite pen, and address book. You could add a candle or CD to help create a mood.
- If you already have everything gathered, create a letter-writing box for a friend.

#### Intermediate Level

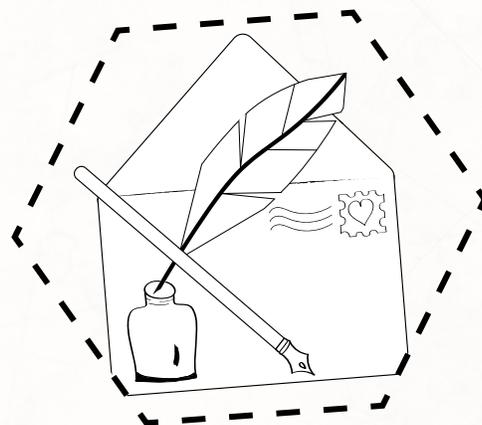
- Read a book on letter writing. Some good options are *The Art of the Personal Letter* by Margaret Shepherd, *100 Letters that Changed the World* by Colin Salter, *If You Find This Letter* by Hannah Brencher, or *A Simple Act of Gratitude: How Learning to Say Thank You Changed My Life* by John Kralik.
- Send three cards/letters to friends, relatives, or acquaintances who could use a pick-me-up.

#### Expert Level

- Find a pen pal (domestic or international) and exchange at least five letters with them. Share about your experience and how exchanging letters with a pen pal made you feel under the Merit Badge Chit Chat topic on the Farmgirl Connection.

OR

- Participate in two Farmgirl Mail Art swaps.





## Merit Badge Jewelry

Farmgirl sisters and their children have earned over 10,886 merit badges to date (see a complete list of our Merit Badge Awardees at [FarmgirlSisterhood.org](http://FarmgirlSisterhood.org)). Not only are their meritorious accomplishments given public accolades here in the *Sister Issue* and on our chatroom, but they're also given a link to a printable 4-inch badge specific to every accomplishment. (Some farmgirls have even earned the "sharpshooter" designation for earning more than 200 badges!) Typically printed on muslin and then stitched to jackets or shoulder bags, made into wall hangings, or sometimes quilts, I'm thinking there might be other sisters, like me, who want to turn their badge insignias into necklaces, bracelets, chest medals, ring or earring signets, or even aglets and stampede straps!

Here's how I did it. Using a few basic jewelry tools, the Internet, and a visit to my local craft store, I took my badges (that arrive in an e-mail when earned/approved) and sized them down. You can size your badges yourself using this step-by-step process, or take your jpeg files to your local copy shop and have them do it for you. If you have other ideas on how you like to resize and color your badges, feel free to share your ideas on our **Farmgirl Connection™ Chatroom**.

1. Download your jpeg badge file, right-click (PC) or command-click (Mac) the image, then choose "Save Picture As..." or "Save Image As..." Save them to your computer somewhere you can find them again (like the desktop).
2. My design team knew how to color them on the computer using Paint or Photoshop, but when left to my own devices, colored pencils worked just fine. I left many of mine black and white, aiming for that vintage, somewhat industrial, frugal, farmish look.
3. Open Microsoft Word.
4. Click "Insert," "Picture," "From File," and select the badge image to insert.
5. Select one of the corners of the badge image. Using Word's rulers for size reference (under toolbars), resize your badge the desired amount by clicking, holding, and dragging.
6. If you make a mistake while resizing, simply hit the "Reset Picture" button on the picture editing toolbar and start over ("View," "Toolbars," "Picture").
7. To make a circle cutting template around your badge you will need to again select "View," "Toolbars," "Drawing." Select the oval shape, and while holding your shift key down, drag until the circle is the correct size for your badge. Click the paint bucket on the drawing toolbar while your circle is selected, and click "no fill" to make your badge visible through the circle.
9. Print and enjoy!



continued...



For Scrabble tiles, I found the best quality and most reliable gear on **Etsy**. First, I brushed the paper badge with a thin layer of matte-finish Mod Podge to seal the paper, then I let it dry. You will use Mod Podge for all of these jewelry crafting projects; it works as both a glue and a sealer. Next I cut out my paper badge insignia and brushed the blank side of the Scrabble tile with Mod Podge and placed the paper badge onto it, gently working out any air bubbles with my bone folder (find at your local craft store.) After it dried, I placed a self-adhesive square epoxy dome on top of the badge insignia and used a bone folder to remove the air bubbles. Next, I glued a metal bail (see left) on the lettered side using a 24-hour clear epoxy. Finally, I attached it to my chain necklace using a jump ring.



Bone Folder



For smaller, round bezel cups (my favorite), I turned to scrapbooking supplies for the most economical source. Idea-ology™ "Type Charms" (the stickers that come in the package look like typewriter keys, but I used my badge insignias instead) are sold in packages of 16 that include self-adhesive round epoxy domes that insert into each cup and sell for around \$8 (50¢ each). Available at **Michael's** or **online here**.

I think the 1/2" diameter size of this charm is good because of the price and availability. Soon, we'll all be *charming!* (You can go a more expensive route using bezel cups made from sterling silver and filled with liquid clear casting epoxy. You can **purchase supplies here**, or **Google** "sterling bezel cups.")

Sterling Silver Bezel Cup



continued...



Look to **Jill Schwartz** for a line of jewelry embellishments for adding non-badge charms to your necklace. I used a variety of charms from her line, as well as Industrial Chic, Lost & Found, Pearls & Pumps, Bella Boho, Forged, Blue Moon, and Black Lace. If you haven't discovered the jewelry aisle in your local craft store yet, head on out. There may be other lines or new lines available online or in stores near you.



Picking through the above lines of jewelry makings, I also Mod Podged my badge insignias onto any flat surface I could find, adjusting the size accordingly. I even used a locket from the Industrial Chic line for my main hexagonal Sisterhood Badge (inside are photos of my grandchildren). Note the cool safety pins you can buy that don't have the bottom double curl.



continued...

Or buy a button-making machine.

Merit Badge Buttons



Industrial Chic's ring blank didn't come with a self-adhesive resin dome, so I picked up some EasyCast to make my own. First, I followed the Mod Podge steps and gave the badge an extra coat to protect it from losing color and let it dry. I chose a well-ventilated area and covered the surface I was working on with wax paper. Next, I put on gloves and eye protection. Following the EasyCast instructions that come with the kit, I mixed my EasyCast and poured it into a squeezable condiment bottle with a spout (like a mustard container). I put the ring upright in a vise and gently squeezed the EasyCast onto my "bee kind to mother earth" badge that was nestled inside. (If you don't have a vise, you could use a bowl of uncooked rice or make jigs out of foam-core board or styrofoam.) Lastly, I covered the ring with a box while the EasyCast was hardening to protect it and followed the EasyCast instructions for proper clean up.





## Big welcome to our new and renewing Sisterhood members!

Jan 1, 2022 to Dec 31, 2022

Allie Clark  
 Amber Jennings  
 Amy Keener  
 Amy Desantis  
 Amy Moberg  
 Andrea Lohf  
 Andrea Maliszewski  
 Angela Vargas  
 Angie Billington  
 Anita Huntley  
 Ann Hughes  
 Ann Sawyer  
 Annette Theopolos  
 Annette Widmark  
 April Tovar  
 Arlene Woods  
 Avoa Henry  
 Barb Lewis  
 Bea Campbell  
 Beth Lohman  
 Bette Axiak  
 Beverly Arellano  
 Brandy Quattlebaum  
 Brenda Fischer-Denney  
 Brittany Portmann  
 Candy Hogan  
 Carine Ozias-Caccia  
 Carol Isbell  
 Carole Prevost  
 Carrie Williams  
 Cathie Robson  
 Cheryl Herron  
 Cheryl Kerr  
 Chris Hancock  
 Christi Downes  
 Christin Davis  
 Christina Williamson  
 Christina Burnham  
 Christina Southerland  
 Christine Box

Christine Williams  
 Christine Wolfe  
 Cindy Thurston  
 Cindy Weyers  
 Connie Conner  
 Connie McCaffery  
 Connie Drury  
 Corey Romanski  
 Crystal Pung  
 Cynthia Wright  
 Cynthia Cahilig  
 Cypriana Corey  
 Dale Ann Staggs  
 Dana Puhlman  
 Danielle Reuther  
 Darla Armstrong  
 Darlene Ricotta  
 Dawn Conrad  
 Deb Causey  
 Deb Fischer  
 Deb Obermeier  
 Deborah Mraz  
 Deborah Smith  
 Deborah Teets  
 Debra Rueb  
 Deidre Malcom  
 Denise Bateman  
 Denise Thompson  
 Denise Anderson  
 Donna Wyland  
 Donna Everhart  
 Donna Stone  
 Donna Kowicki  
 Dorene Hedrick  
 Dorothy J Sparks  
 Eileen Richmond  
 Eliza Perreault  
 Elizabeth Lowe  
 Elizabeth Bond  
 Elizabeth McNett

Elizabeth Nicholson  
 Emilie Wacker  
 Emily Nellinger  
 Felicia Friebe  
 Frances Taylor  
 Gail Karls  
 Gail Green  
 Gaynelle Rose  
 Georgeanne Pinson  
 Ginger Louden  
 Gloria Groza  
 Gwendolyn Deaton  
 Heather Neeper  
 Heather Clark  
 Heather Lynn Martin  
 Heidi Thomas  
 Helen Reynolds  
 Isabelle Markley  
 Jacinda Jenks  
 Jacqualine Newnam  
 Jamie Zimmerman  
 Jammie Ackley  
 Janet North  
 Janet Pridmore  
 Janet Brown  
 Janice Kennedy  
 Janice-Shaw Alford  
 Jeanna Morgan  
 Jeanne Betters  
 Jennie Leano  
 Jennifer Fusaro  
 Jennifer Daneker  
 Jennifer Delong  
 Jennifer Love  
 Jessica Yonkovit  
 Jill Yelland-DeMooy  
 Jill Newcomer  
 Joan Anthony  
 Joann Brogan  
 Joanna Ziolkowski

Joanne Seruto  
 Jody Althouse  
 Joni French  
 Joy Best  
 Joy Forbes  
 Juanita Harrigan  
 Judy Van Hooser  
 Judy Curtis  
 Julia Garnant  
 Julia Hunter  
 Julie Ford  
 Julie Kram  
 Julie M. Vicknair  
 Julie Daugherty  
 Julie Hofmann  
 Kaaminii Stroh  
 Karen Price  
 Karen Ryan  
 Karen Martell  
 Karin Weaver  
 Karin Thomas  
 Kate Haywood  
 Kathie Bostwick  
 Kathryn O'Hara  
 Kathy Mayeda  
 Kathy Batterton  
 Kay Tilton  
 Kelley Lowe  
 Kellie Wade  
 Kelly Anne Stamper  
 Kendra Ayton  
 Kim Reineke  
 Kimberley Thomas  
 Kimberly Taylor  
 Kris Hart  
 Kristen Parkinson  
 Laine Karner  
 Larranie Gonsalves  
 Laura Knippers  
 Le Vern Burback

continued...

Lee Ann Grossberg  
Leta McCurry  
Linda Hulbert  
Linda Stark  
Linda Woodruff  
Linda Freeland  
Linda Pavey  
Linnea Moss  
Lisa Bramblet  
Loretta Ivory  
Lori Steele  
Lynda Bucknell  
Lynda Johnson  
Lynn Shuler  
Lynne Meyers  
Maggie Daniel  
MAK Birchell  
Marcelina Lundy  
Margaret Karner  
Margaret Schwanebeck  
Marie Listopad  
Marie Panyik  
Martha Maurits  
Marti Wynne  
Mary Jean Lorigo  
Mary Murray

Mary Ellen Eckels  
Mary Pam Barnes-Palty  
Maureen Duden  
Maya White  
Melinda Chase  
Melinda McCarthy  
Melinda M. Owen  
Melissa Spargur  
Michele Talley  
Michelle Shamblin  
Molly Howell  
Nancy Smith  
Nancy Kinder  
Nancy Diercks  
Nancy Joplin  
Nancy Wagner  
Nancy Ellis  
Nancy Buffington  
Nathalie Eckersley  
Nichelle Miyakoshi  
Pamela Czurak  
Patti Piorkowski  
Peggy York  
Penny Parish  
Polly Winkelvoss  
Rea Nakanishi

Rebecca Widner  
Rhonda Lunt  
Rhonda Hernandez  
Robin Dolan  
Roseanna Nicholson  
Rosemary Watson  
Rosey Bacon  
Ruth Farmer  
Ruth Strutz  
Sallie Dee Walker  
Samantha Perry  
Sandra McCarter  
Sandra Gold  
Sara Knight  
Sarah St. John  
Sarah Weeks-Weston  
Shannon Burkemper  
Shannon Fayle  
Sharon Inserra  
Sharon Wegmeyer  
Sheila LaPoint  
Sherry Dixon  
Skye French  
Stacey Mitchell  
Stephanie McMillan  
Sue Ryno

Sue Daniel  
Susan Leto  
Susan West  
Susan Bowers  
Susan Wich  
Susan Ownby  
Susan Whitakerhill  
Suzanne Steinhiser  
Sylvia Jacobus  
Tammy Wilson  
Tammy Evans  
Teresa Roberson  
Terri Burr  
Terri Starbuck  
Terri Goggin  
Terry Steinmetz  
Theresa Kasel  
Tiffany Kibler  
Tina VanDaam  
Trudy Letaw  
Valerie Schelinski  
Vicki Hollinger  
Vickie Daniel  
Wanda Sue Aldridge  
Wendy Lusk

"I prefer the winter and fall,  
when you feel the bone structure  
of the landscape—the loneliness  
of it; the dead feeling of winter.  
Something waits beneath it, the  
whole story doesn't show."

— Andrew Wyeth



I'd like to introduce you to Donna Everhart (Farmgirl Sister #7913). Donna is the *USA Today* bestselling author of Southern fiction, including *The Education of Dixie Dupree*, the Southeastern Library Association Award-winning *The Road to Bittersweet*, and her newest novel, *The Saints of Swallow Hill*. She lives with her husband in a small town just an hour from where she was born and raised outside Raleigh, North Carolina. Please visit her online at [DonnaEverhart.com](http://DonnaEverhart.com).

Meg

# Farmgirl book club

## FEB/MAR: The Tributes We Make

Welcome to the Farmgirl Book Club! If this is your first visit, here's how it works ...

In each issue of *MaryJanesFarm*, we suggest several new books, usually coinciding with a different theme and always the kinds of reads that are fun to share and discuss. You pick whichever one tickles your fancy—whether that's all of them, or just one, or something that's not on the list at all! Then we all get together at [Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub) to talk about what we're reading.

Dear Farmgirls,

For many of us, the idea of a "tribute" brings to mind speeches given at memorial services or charitable donations made in the name of someone who's passed away. It's something we do in the aftermath of loss, our words for another in their permanent absence.

While honoring those we have lost is meaningful and important, we don't need to wait for an event as significant as death to pay respect to someone or something that matters to us. After all, there's no time like the present to intentionally express, whether in words or actions, our gratitude and admiration. Why wait until a person is gone to honor the impact they've had on your life?

And there are no rules about the form a tribute must take. It could be as simple as writing a note telling someone the specific reasons why they are special to you. Maybe it's planting a tree in honor of a shared memory or dedicating an accomplishment to another person. Some people, myself included, participate in events like the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure or Walk to Defeat ALS. Or maybe the work you do is a form of tribute, such as my friend who became a nurse as a way of following in his mother's footsteps. The act of putting his heart into his work on a daily basis is a tribute to the compassion and expertise he witnessed in his mother throughout her own career.

The books we're reading and discussing for this edition of the Farmgirl Book Club involve different kinds of tributes and ways people have of honoring the people, principles, and events that make their lives meaningful in ways both big and small. Do any of these examples resonate with you? How do you pay tribute to what matters most in your life? I hope you'll join us at [Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub) to let us know!

Happy reading,

Donna Everhart, Farmgirl Sister #7913

“ She liked the sight of a good, thick book. ‘A lot of reading in that one,’ she would say. Indeed, the book was just like a warm, thick eiderdown that she could pull over herself, snuggle into. ”

– Alice Munro



coffee cup@iStockphoto.com/NYS444



***In the Time of Our History***

by Susanne Pari

Mitra Jahani, the 40-something, American-born daughter of Iranian immigrants, has spent her life rebelling against the traditions and beliefs of her parents' patriarchal culture. But as this beautifully written, immersive novel opens, she finds herself reluctantly traveling to her New Jersey hometown for her sister's *One Year*—the Persian

tradition of marking the first anniversary of someone's death. It is a tribute she attends out of obligation; it holds little meaning to her beyond the pain of her sister's absence, the guilt of confronting her browbeaten mother, and the resentment of sharing space with the domineering father who banished her for refusing to be the traditional daughter he wanted. But rejecting what she sees as the performative and gendered mourning of the *One Year*, Mitra's grief turns her inward and becomes a catalyst for this fractured family to reform into something new.

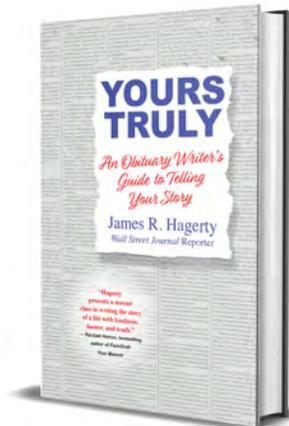


***The Book Spy***

by Alan Hlad

Against the fascinating backdrop of WWII Portugal, this thrilling story follows an American librarian-turned-spy named Maria and Tiago, a bookseller in Lisbon, as they risk everything to honor the sacrifices of their loved ones by standing against fascism. For Maria, serving her country is her way of honoring

the memory of her mother, a photojournalist killed by crossfire while covering the Spanish Civil War. As a microfilm expert at the New York Public Library who's fluent in six languages, she knows President Roosevelt's unlikely new taskforce of librarians being trained in espionage is her best chance to continue her mother's fight against fascism. And soon after executing a mission of her own to land a spot within the Office of Strategic Services, she's dispatched to the neutral city of Lisbon. The "last cog in the wheel to freedom" for European Jews fleeing Nazi persecution, it's a city crawling with spies and danger. Maria's mission is to scour bookstores and news dealers for Axis publications. It is in one such shop that she meets Tiago, a Portuguese bookstore owner with a Catholic father and a Jewish French mother. Tiago is on a dangerous mission of his own: smuggling Jewish refugees out of the country and so continuing the work of his grandparents before they were imprisoned in a Nazi labor camp. United in their fight against the tyranny of evil and their shared love of the written word, Maria and Tiago grow close. But any future together is jeopardized when Maria's superiors send her on a new mission that will plunge her into the very heart of Hitler's inner circle ...

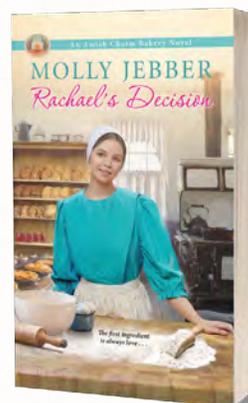


***Yours Truly: An Obituary Writer's Guide to Telling Your Story***

by James R. Hagerty

I urge you not to judge this surprisingly delightful book by its purported subject matter! While it may *appear* at first to be a somber instructional on how to craft something nobody looks forward to writing—an obituary—it's really a humorous, inspiring, life-affirming guide to making the most of here and now. From a practical

perspective, the book explains how to ask the right questions, choose the right details, and include the right historical context in a way that truly captures what a person's life has been all about. It includes charming anecdotes, insights, and examples both heartwarming and humorous that will get you thinking about important questions like "What were you trying to do in life? Why? And how did it work out?" But most importantly, this charming guide shows us not just *how* to tell our own stories, but *why* thinking about them now, before it's "too late to change the script," can help us live the kind of story we'll want to tell.



***Rachael's Decision***

by Molly Jebber

After Rachael, a young Amish woman in early-19th century Ohio, lost both her ability to have children and her fiancé in a buggy accident, she told herself that romantic love and the family she'd always dreamed of having just weren't part of God's plan for her. Instead, she stays busy working in the local bakery and

caring for her neighbor's children. Even when she and a handsome newcomer named Caleb feel an instant connection and begin to court, she knows they can never marry because she won't be able to give him the big family he wants. But will God's true plan for Rachael and Caleb become clear only in the wake of another tragedy—and a vow she makes to a young, pregnant *Englischer* who's living in a saloon under difficult circumstances?

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Join us on the Farmgirl Book Club Facebook Group to learn more, meet the authors, enter giveaways, and talk about books:  
[Facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub).

# Paradise Ridge LOVE STORY

## R E M E M B E R I N G N I C K

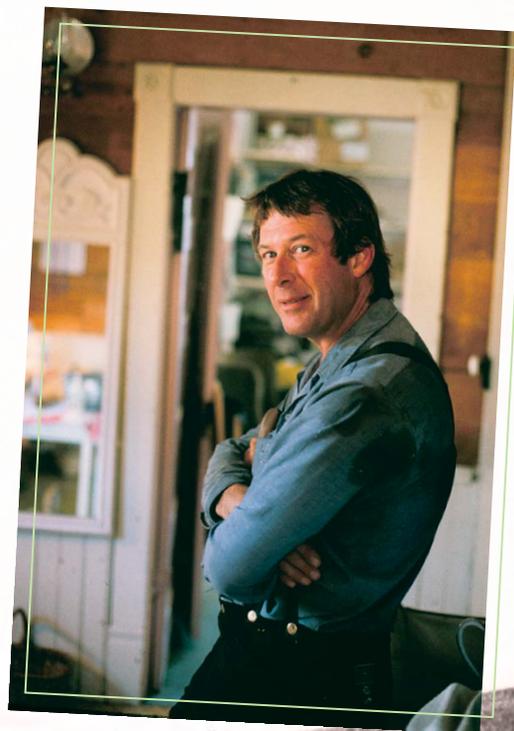
I lost my husband, Nick, last summer to cancer. In honor of Nick, I'd like to share some photos and articles that will give you an idea of just who Nick was in the world ... farmer, businessman, community elder, husband, father, grandfather, and friend to everyone he met. To know Nick was to love Nick.

### Nick Ogle: Man from Blaine

From the *Latah Eagle*, September 19, 2002, by Bill London

Members of the Nez Perce Tribe created a trail between what is now Moscow and Lewiston that 19th century homesteaders followed as well. Eight miles southeast of Moscow, just on the other side of Paradise Ridge, the settlers built a community along that trail route, a town they called Blaine. The settlement became a stagecoach stop on the road that followed the original pathway.

By 1925, Blaine was a town with a church, a school, stores, and a dozen homes. That was the year that Ivan Ogle, aged 15, arrived with his parents, Ward and Rhoda Ogle. They bought a 240-acre farm and set to work harvesting grain and hay and building a house at the edge of the Blaine community. In 1936, Ivan married Ruth Morton, his neighbor, and later took over the family farm from his father. Ivan and Ruth, who spent virtually all of their married lives together in that same farmhouse, had four children. Nick, the youngest, was born in 1950.



By the time he was 10 years old, Nick was driving tractor, putting up hay, helping with equipment maintenance, and doing his share to keep up with the work on the family farm. The Ogles' farm grew in 1962 to a total of 640 acres with the purchase of 400 adjacent acres. In 1969, Nick graduated from Moscow High School as a track star with FFA honors, spent two years at the University of Idaho, and then moved to Boise, where he married.

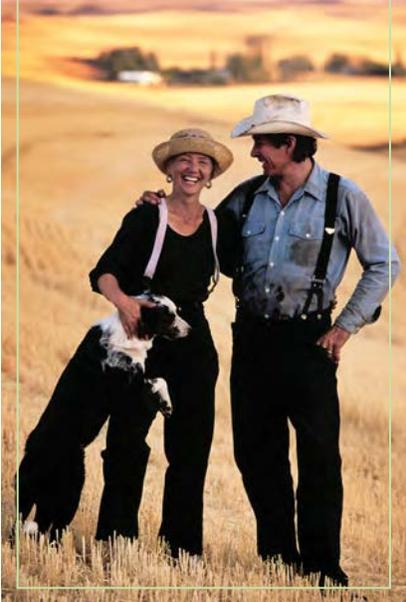
"My father said he was retiring in 1974," Nick said. "He told me that either I could come back and farm or he was going to sell the farm. My brother and my sisters were not interested in farming."

In a partnership with his father, Nick took over the farm and the 600 tillable acres planted annually in wheat, peas, barley, and other crops. His parents stayed on the farm, remaining in the same home.

Following his divorce, Nick and his two sons, Brian and Sam, continued to live about a mile from his parents' farmhouse. In 1993, Nick married his new neighbor, MaryJane Butters, the woman who bought the five-acre homestead adjacent to his farm.

"She was riding her bike down her driveway to the mailbox with her two kids in a bike trailer," he recalled. "I got down off my combine and introduced myself." Nick smiled. "After that, I started picking flowers up on the ridge and leaving them anonymously on her doorstep."

One thing they discovered about each other was a common belief that farming should be done differently, that an alternative was needed to conventional agriculture. MaryJane, the environmental activist, and Nick, the lifelong farmer, were searching for a way to bring stability and financial independence back to the family farm. They both recognized that if organic agriculture was to become a realistic alternative, for Palouse area farmers or for anyone, then someone needed to create a market for organic food, still at that time a fledgling concept.



"There really was no organic agriculture here on the Palouse," Nick explained. "I kept thinking, if people want organic food, why don't I give it to them? MaryJane had already begun Paradise Farm Organics as a way to provide a market for organic products. She is a visionary—she can take an idea and put wheels under it. We kept making more prepared foods for sale and contracting with local farmers for organic peas, lentils, beans, and other products. And now, the business keeps growing as one thing leads to another. But the goal is still to provide a place for organic farmers to market their products."

Juggling business and farm, Nick is a busy man. In the corporate structure of Paradise Farm Organics, Nick is the vice-president in charge of production. He supervises the crew responsible for mixing, ordering, bagging, and shipping. In his extra moments, he runs the farm.

In addition to his production work and his farm fields, Nick has found time to serve his community in various volunteer positions. From 1980 to 1992, he was a board member of the Inland Empire Pea Growers Association, a growers' cooperative. He joined the board of directors for the Moscow Food Co-op in 1997 and served as board chair from 1998 until 2000. During his tenure, the Co-op moved to a new location, doubling in size and doubling in sales.

Known for being thrifty and capable of repairing anything mechanical, Nick's true love is digging in the dirt with heavy equipment. As a child, he and

his sister spent hours on a dirt bank in their horse pasture, building roads and digging caves for their toy trucks and soldiers. As an adult, he uses his tractor to accomplish the same things but on a much larger scale, building roads, digging ditches, plowing snow, and without hesitation, pulling out the cars of neighbors and strangers alike who get stuck in snowdrifts or ditches. Schooled in the era of the neighborly hand wave and handshake, his word providing the only bond needed.

Nick is also the unofficial "mayor" of Blaine and the president of the Blaine Community Association. The association is dedicated to preserving both the history of the Blaine community and the town's original schoolhouse, where Nick's aunts, uncles, and neighbors attended school. It still stands, surrounded now by fields instead of homes and businesses.

"In 1937, the school closed, and the town was gone soon thereafter," Nick explained. "We've kept the schoolhouse, and offer it now for weddings, dances, and parties. The schoolhouse keeps alive memories of the town, the stagecoach, and the Nez Perce Trail before that. Keeping Blaine alive preserves the rich history of this land where I was born and raised."



*Then & Now*



continued...

# THE PASTOR AND HIS WIFE

as published in *MaryJane's Ideabook*, 2004

Can a person be too happy? So happy it makes your face muscles sore? It happened to us. When our daughter announced she wanted to be married here, at our farm, in our wheat field, with only chairs, a grand piano, and my husband Nick officiating, I knew my influence had come to fruition.

When she announced her engagement a year prior, she received this sound advice: "Live in the moment as you walk down the aisle. It'll be the biggest moment of your life." A fresh-air chapel; locally grown food; dancing; bridesmaids as her only decoration; and a long, long aisle topped Meggie's list.

Meggie also wanted the event to last for several days, starting with a softball game two nights prior and a wedding-rehearsal dinner the night before at the Blaine Schoolhouse. She asked if I could turn the farm into a campground for out-of-town guests. And since people were coming from as far away as Japan (our oldest son and his Japanese girlfriend), Meggie and Luke wouldn't leave for their honeymoon until everyone else had journeyed home.

As the happy night wound down, a relative from Luke's side of the family came across the dance floor to thank me for a wonderful evening. "Is this your church and your husband the pastor?" In Idaho, anyone can officiate as long as they visit the courthouse a day before the wedding to pick up a license. Caught off guard, I quickly took hold of the opportunity to declare, "Yes, my husband is the pastor of our church, the Church of Each Other."



“The greatest marriages are built on teamwork, a mutual *respect*, a healthy dose of *admiration*, and a never-ending portion of *Love and grace*.”

– Fawn Weaver

continued...

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# The Ultimate Each Other

as published in *MaryJane's Ideabook*, 2004

Dear MaryJane,

I wrote this wedding sermon for my sister. Parts of it were inspired by some of the things we've been working on in the magazine and *Ideabook*. I wanted to emphasize what people seem to forget so often: that a married couple must be part of a larger community in order to survive; that life is not about jobs, money, or politics—it is about “Each Other.” And because she had been so sick this past winter, I also wanted it to emphasize the “sickness and health” part of the traditional marriage sermon. Their relationship had a crash course in surviving illness, and they were a fine example to anyone of how to deal with this unavoidable aspect of life. — Taylor



In Montana, I learned that though it is impossible to cross a swift, flowing river alone, you can cross safely if you link arms in a circle with your companions and turn like a wheel through the current. I find parallels to this in our everyday lives. You cannot cross the raging river alone, nor can you cross through life alone, despite the illusion of separateness we often entertain in our culture. You cannot stand by yourself; it is friends and family and the community we create—it is the church of each other—that support each of us in our lives and in our loves, that shore us up so we can stand tall.

Sustained by all of us here today, this new family can pass through all life's currents, and not be swept away. There is an Irish proverb that I have been turning over in my mind: “It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.” These wise and simple words remind us that as we stand witness to this marriage between Daphne and Brian, it becomes our duty to shelter them to celebrate with them their lives' joys, but also to comfort them in their grief and to advise them in their struggles. They have entrusted us with this honor.

But even with the support of one's family and community, a marriage without a strong foundation will founder and will crumble in the elements. I know Daphne and Brian have a strong foundation. It is one of fierce love, but what's more, it is one of gentleness, patience, and bravery. I was in awe of them this winter. In the face of illness and near tragedy, Brian was a welcome beacon of calm, and under his cherishing hand and steady care, I watched Daphne become strong again. And I realized then he was my brother.

Megan & Lucas, wedding eve rehearsal dinner at the Blaine Schoolhouse, 2004



## Donut Beat All ...

Megan Butters Rae, 2011

When I introduce my dad to people, we often get the comment: “Oh, I can see the resemblance.” Funny thing is, he's my stepdad. But he deserves the title of “Dad” in my book. He's earned it.

My mother and Nick were married when I was in junior-high school. From the get-go, my brother and I felt like we were getting another dad and two more brothers. Nick became an important part of my life, but it wasn't by accident on his part.

My senior year of high school, Mom and I had a tiff about her telling me I couldn't go to town with them to be dropped off at a friend's house while she and Nick ran errands, but instead had to stay home and hang clothes on the line. I pouted and pouted as I slowly hung the family's laundry. Poor me.

Later that day, their truck pulled back into the driveway. Mom walked past me, saying, “Nick needs your help unloading groceries.” The “groceries” consisted of only one thing—a dozen donuts (not something my mom would ever buy). Nick and I sat in the sun, not talking about anything in particular, each of us eating donuts.

Before my mother and Nick married, they took a class on the University of Idaho campus called “How to Make the Blended Family Work.” The instructor focused on the importance of children from divorced families feeling loved, saying the stepparent's job was solely to show that love—as in best friend, confidante—and let the biological parent do the disciplining.

I'm sure Nick and Mom sat many a night by the woodstove, long after they'd tucked us into bed, coming up with their parenting game plan, but Nick always JUST loved us, and Mom always JUST loved his boys.

In return, I proudly call him “Dad.”

continued...

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# “We”

February 2013

When hubby Nick and I celebrated his 63rd birthday with some sorting (going through old boxes in his shop) ... and snorting. Hold on ... not *that* kind of snorting. Laughter. You know, the kind that makes you snort to show just how funny something is. (So funny, you're perfectly willing to make a piggy fool of yourself.)

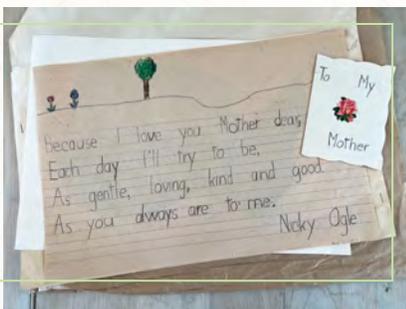
We have a banter that's all ours. Ours, as in "we." It's "we"-centric banter. It goes something like this: "Honey, can 'we' move the stack of pallets from behind the barn sometime soon?" By "we," I mean Nick ... and *maybe* me. Or me supervising and him dancing the controls of the tractor like the pro he is, having been driving one since he was 10 years old.

We sorted and sorted. And no, my husband isn't a hoarder (though you may be tempted to suggest it when you see some of the things we found). Truth be known, he's a bona-fide, official, dyed-in-the-wool sentimental sop.

He still has his homework from high school. (I mean "we" still have his homework from high school.)



And a Mother's Day card he made his mother when he was in first grade.



And a box of Valentines from his childhood friends.



And his stuffed animals that were once new until he'd loved their fur off. Is this what I'll look like in a few more years? Meet DOG and PANDA. (Seriously, he named them Dog and Panda.)

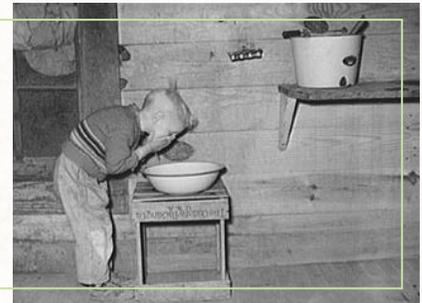
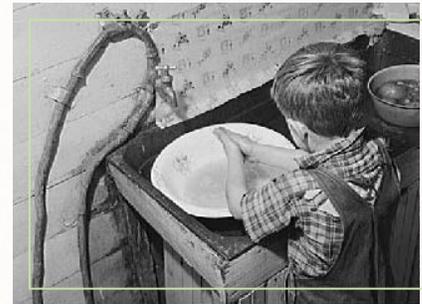


My husband was in high school before their hand-crank wall phone (complete with party-line interruptions) was replaced by a "modern" rotary phone.



I was in an antiques store recently during Mothers' Weekend at the university. The store was packed with mothers and sorority gals. I heard one say, as she picked up a black rotary phone like the one my husband still uses, "Wouldn't this make a novel gift for someone who still has one of those landlines?"

And here's the washbowl he was in charge of every day just before lunch during harvest so the guys could stand in line and wash up before sitting down to eat the hot lunch the women had brought to the field.



On one of hubby's field days spent in and out of his hot, dusty tractor prepping the soil for planting, his wedding band, "our" wedding band, slipped off his finger without him noticing.

I remember him coming in to wake me from a nap with a look on his face that made my heart stop. "I lost my wedding band," he said. True to his sentimental "sop" nature, he drove to town on three separate occasions to rent a metal detector that he used to retrace his tractor tracks, hoping to find his ring. At some point, I lightly suggested "we" buy a new band. He reminded me that both our bands had been made in Hawaii by a high-school friend of his and in his mind, it was irreplaceable.

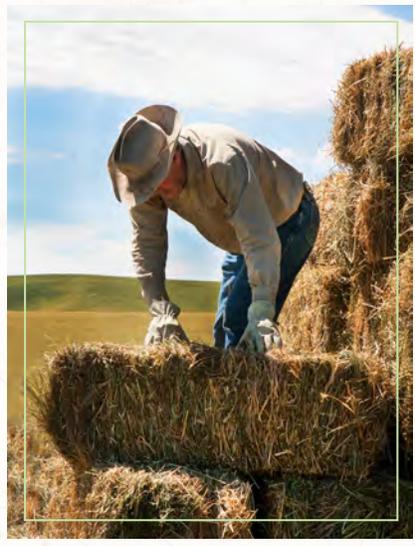


Nonetheless, I hatched a plan with our local jeweler for a replacement. For our second rendition of “Will you marry me?”, I invited him to A&W for his favorite—fries with fry sauce and a root-beer float, his new ring on a chain around my neck so there wasn’t any chance I would lose it. He accepted.

And my b-day gift to him? I gave him an array of potato chips along with a bowl of my homemade cottage cheese, perfect for dipping.



“We” thoroughly enjoyed them.  
 Now that our “we” has changed back to “me,” I have his wedding band on a chain around my neck again.



“ No one is finally gone until the ripples they cause in the world die away.”  
 – Sir Terry Pratchett

“ Do not stand at my grave and weep,  
 I am not there, I do not sleep.  
 I am a thousand winds that blow,  
 I am the diamond glints on the snow.  
 I am the sunlight on ripened grain,  
 I am the gentle autumn’s rain.  
 When you awaken in the morning’s hush,  
 I am the swift, uplifting rush  
 Of quiet birds in circled flight.  
 I am the soft star that shines at night.”  
 – Clare Harner

Nick & MaryJane (right) and Nick on tractor (top)/Jim Richardson, National Geographic



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# MARYJANE'S farm

FEB/MAR 2023 ISSUE

The Way We Were

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Farmgirl Finds (staff picks)

**12** Farmgirl Expressions  
(artwork with farmgirl flair)

Whether you're a city chick or a farm chick, we're here to help guide you back to your farmgirl roots, back to heartfelt eating, next door with biscuits, downtown for an evening of crocheting with friends, uptown in a dress-up apron, and onward to your dreams—maybe even a farm of your own. Subscribe, join in, and sign up today! [MaryJanesFarm.org](http://MaryJanesFarm.org).

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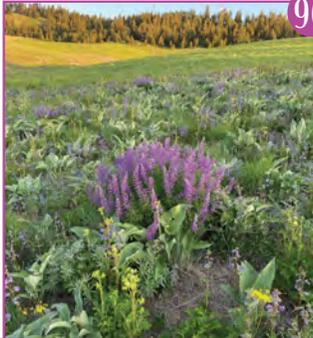




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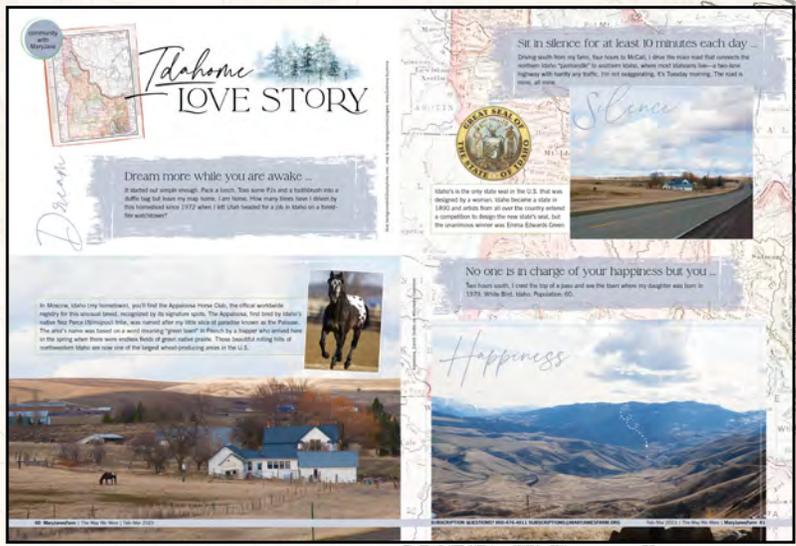
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Farmgirl blogs, unique and yummy recipes, craft ideas, tips, and more.

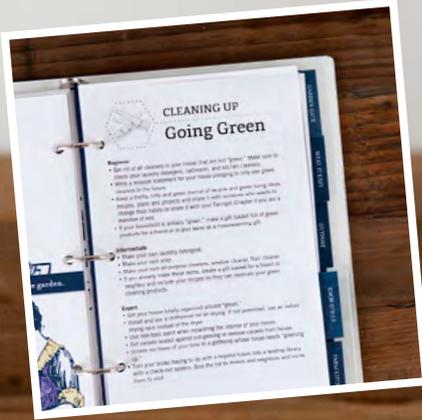
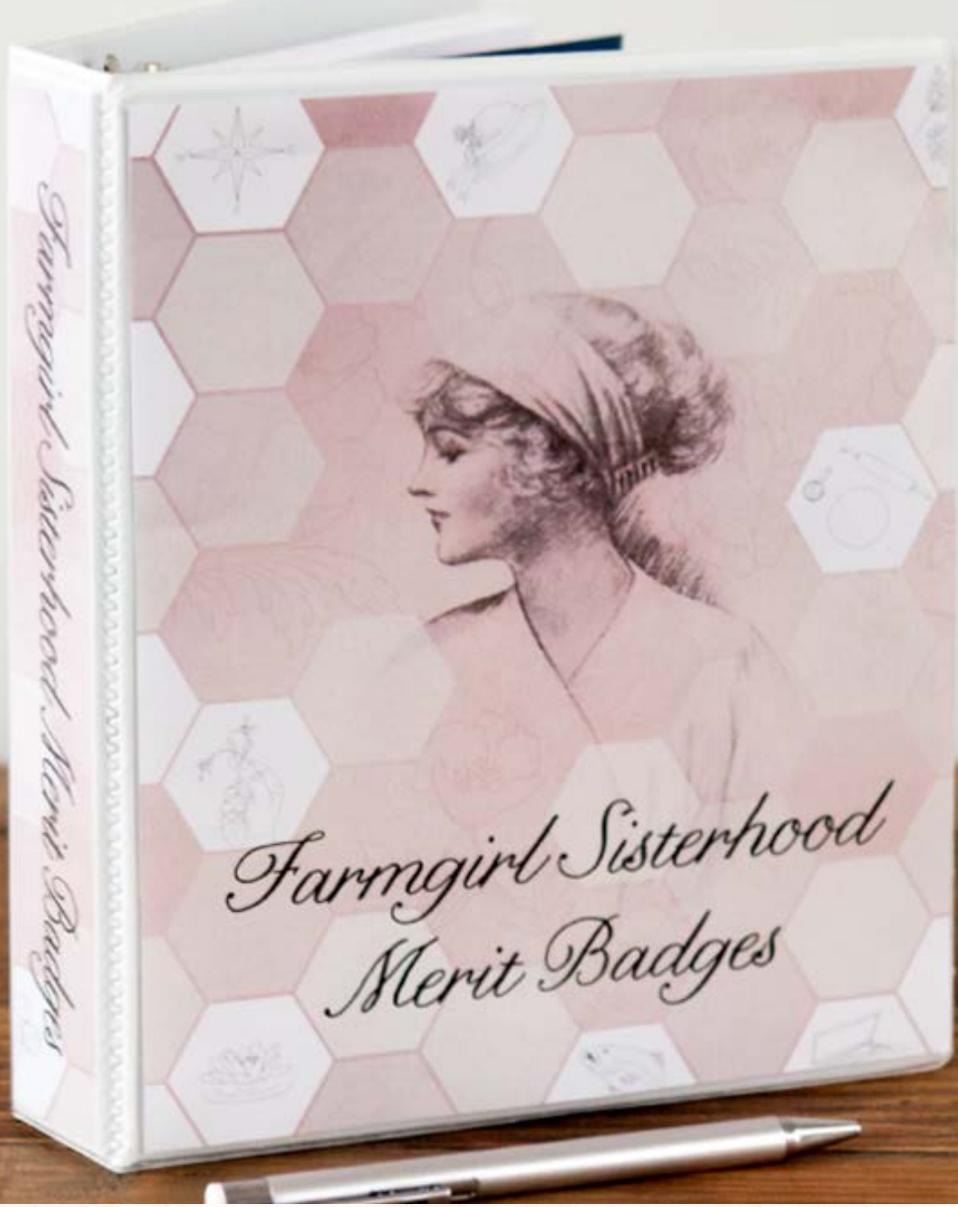
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TO SWOON OVER





26 January 2023



# Merit Badge Planner

Here 'tis—perfect for life during quarantine or starting the new year off on the right foot. Our Farmgirl Sisterhood Merit Badge Planner features a descriptive page for every level of badge (all 145 of them!). Even though it contains a goals calendar, it's designed to work around your schedule. With inspirational sayings scattered throughout, it's a farmgirl must-have for keeping track of badges you've earned and badges you hope to earn. With plenty of space given to "notes," it's fold-back cover makes for easy writing, especially while on-the-go. Each section is clearly labeled with cardstock tabs to make locating badges a breeze. Order yours today!



\$36.<sup>79</sup>



# Sisterhood & Farmerette Merit Badge Awardees

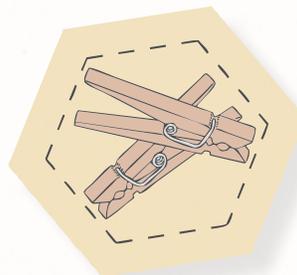
Jan 1, 2022 to Dec 31, 2022

## Aidan Murphy: aidanm, #7664

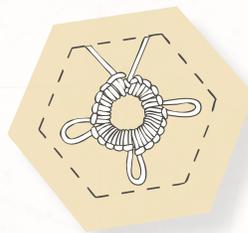
- Beginner badge: Each Other / Her-story
- Beginner badge: Each Other / Connecting Growers and Eaters
- Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Collect It!
- Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Carp-hen-try
- Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Let's Get Physical
- Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together
- Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs
- Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Herbs
- Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Embroidery

## Allison Clark: #8292

- Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Homespun Christmas
- Beginner badge: Outpost / Disconnect to Reconnect
- Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Living Zero Waste
- Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Living Zero Waste
- Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Living Zero Waste
- Beginner badge: Outpost / Orienteering
- Intermediate badge: Outpost / Orienteering
- Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter
- Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter
- Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture
- Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Light the Way
- Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Light the Way
- Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Organic on a Budget
- Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Organic on a Budget
- Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Organic on a Budget
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Weather
- Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Weather
- Expert badge: Garden Gate / Weather
- Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / UFOs
- Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / UFOs
- Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting
- Beginner badge: Outpost / Pampered Pets
- Intermediate badge: Outpost / Pampered Pets
- Intermediate badge: Each Other / Lend a Hand to Families
- Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Know Your Food
- Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Know Your Food



[CLICK HERE TO SEE PAST LISTS OF MERIT BADGE AWARDEES.](#)



continued...

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Kitchen Renegade  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Kitchen Renegade  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Kitchen Renegade  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Expert badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Wild Game  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Jubilee  
Intermediate badge: Farmgirl Jubilee  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Weaving  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Grammar  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Grammar  
Beginner badge: Each Other / International Civics Challenge  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / International Civics Challenge  
Expert badge: Each Other / International Civics Challenge  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Water Management  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Water Management  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Water Management  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Herbs  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Grow Where You're Planted  
Expert badge: Outpost / First Aid  
Expert badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Grammar  
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Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Nellie Make-do

**Amy Gendreau: #8369**

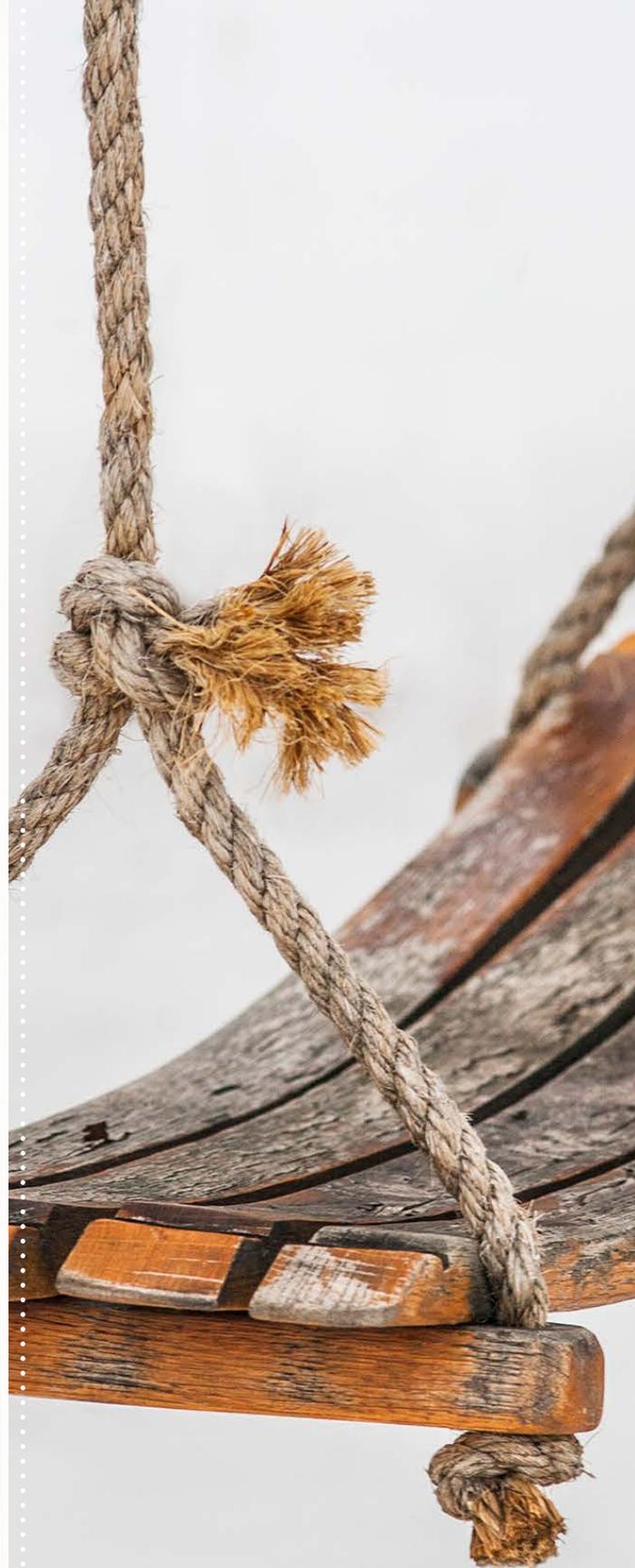
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Expert badge: Garden Gate / What's Your Beef?

**Amy Moberg: upnorth suburb farm, #8115**

Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Furniture MakeOver  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Aprons

**Aneta Smith: #8224**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Staying Green  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Staying Green  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Staying Green  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
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Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Home Insulation  
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Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl

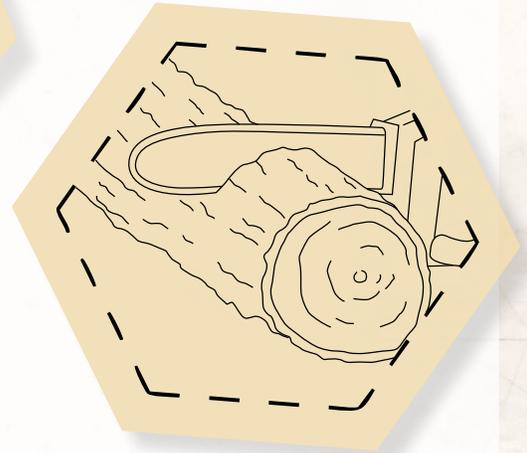
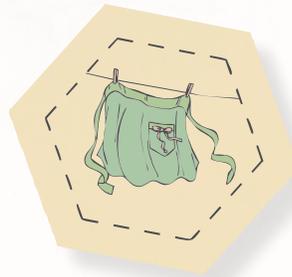


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Expert badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl

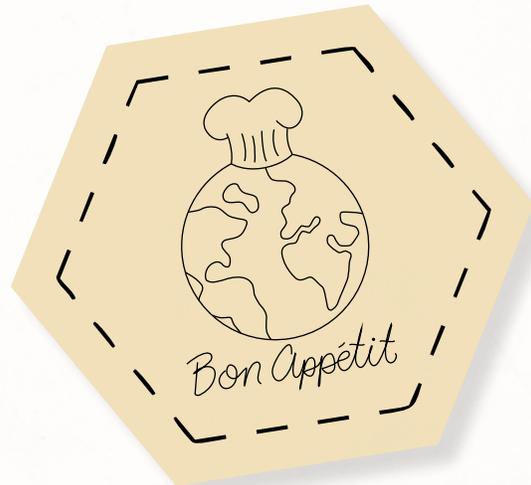
**Andrea Maliszewski: anyzewski, #8297**

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- Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green
- Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green
- Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling
- Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling
- Beginner badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging
- Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Gaining Ground
- Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Let's Get Physical
- Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Let's Get Physical
- Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Sew Wonderful



**Annette Widmark: Viking homestead, #6518**

- Intermediate badge: Stitcing & Crafting / Spinning
- Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Spinning
- Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Knitting
- Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Knitting
- Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Knitting
- Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Scrapbooking
- Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Scrapbooking
- Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Scrapbooking

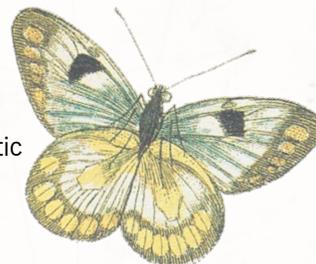
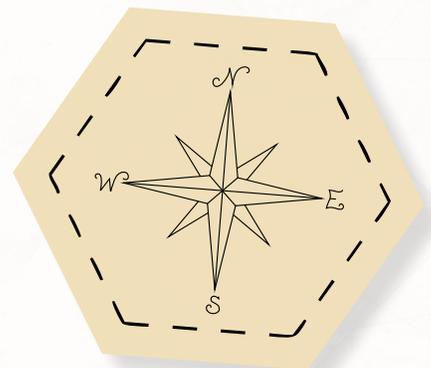


**Beatriz Campbell: quiltingbea, #2575**

- Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Light the Way
- Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Light the Way
- Expert badge: Make It Easy / Light the Way
- Beginner badge: Outpost / Outstepping

**Candy Hogan: Tigger9777, #8283**

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- Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Scrapbooking
- Intermediate badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging
- Expert badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badge
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- Beginner badge: Each Other / Civic Heritage
- Expert badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Grammar
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- Beginner badge: Outpost / Orienteering
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- Expert badge: Outpost / Orienteering
- Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter
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- Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture
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- Expert badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture
- Intermediate badge: Each Other / Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rhythmic
- Expert badge: Each Other / Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rhythmic
- Intermediate badge: Each Other / Civic Heritage



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Intermediate badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Jubilee  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / UFOs  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Pay It Forward  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Gaining Ground  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Gaining Ground  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting  
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Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Organic on a Budget  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Lend a Hand to Families  
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Expert badge: Garden Gate / Heirlooms Forever!  
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Expert badge: Outpost / Rocks and Minerals  
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Expert badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
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Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Leatherworking  
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Leatherworking  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Connecting Growers and Eaters  
Expert badge: Make It Easy / Macrame  
Expert badge: Outpost / First Aid  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / UFOs  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Embroidery  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Sew Wonderful  
Expert Badge: Make It Easy / Leatherworking

**Cindy Kinion: AussieChick, #6058**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Leave It Better Than You Found It  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Water Management  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Leatherworking  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Buttoned Up  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Kitchen Renegade  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Kitchen Renegade  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around  
Intermediate badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around  
Expert badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Weather  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Horse Dreams  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Cheesemaking  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Wild Game  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Pottery/Ceramics  
Beginner badge: Outpost / 'Out There' Women



**Crystal Pung: Crystal P, #8322**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green

**Dawn Conrad: DawnC, #7297**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Bee Good to Your Mother Earth  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together

**Debbie Watson: #8290**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Expert badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge

**Deidre Malcom: Sweetsmom, #85353**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Community Service  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Community Service  
Expert badge: Each Other / Community Service  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Plant It Forward  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Plant It Forward  
Expert badge: Each Other / Plant It Forward  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Gratitude  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Gratitude  
Expert badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Gratitude

**Elizabeth Nicholson: Elizabeth N, #8416**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Birds  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Birds

**Emily Nellinger: citychick03, #8229**

Beginner badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Expert badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge

**Gabrielle Ward: #7820**

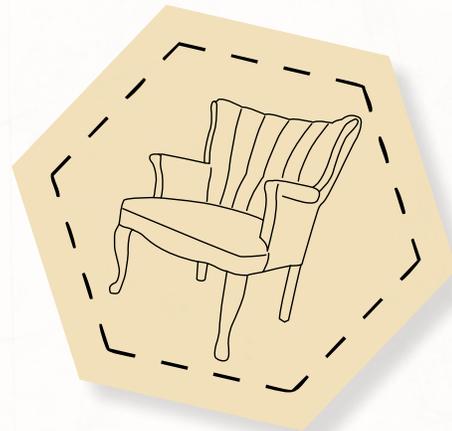
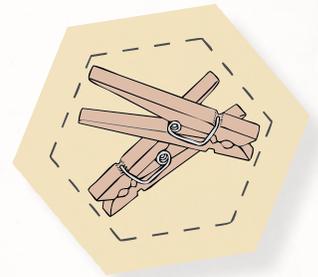
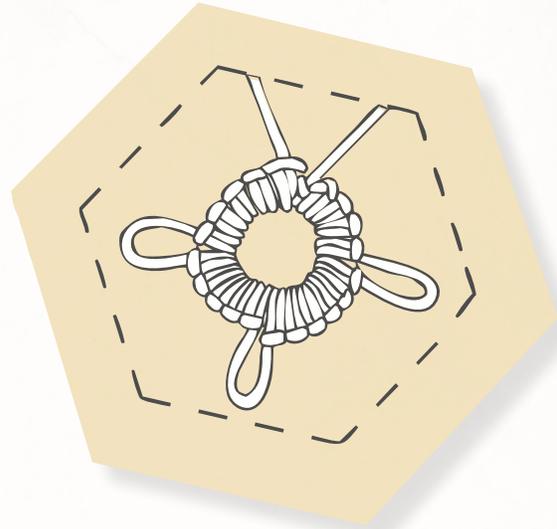
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Shutterbugs  
Expert badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Shutterbugs

**Heather Clark: #8429**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green

**Heather Neeper: ndairy, #4701**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Carpe Cocoa: Seize the Chocolate!  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Gratitude  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter



continued...

Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees  
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Let's Get Physical

**Jennifer DeLong: Jenny 8305, #8305**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees

**Joan Anthony: ijjie, #849**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling

**Karen Martell: Jokamartell, #8422**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl

**Kerry Hubbard: #8275**

Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Expert badge: Each Other / Lend a Hand to Families  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Little Squirts  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Get 'er Done

**Krista Davis: MaryJanesNiece, #528**

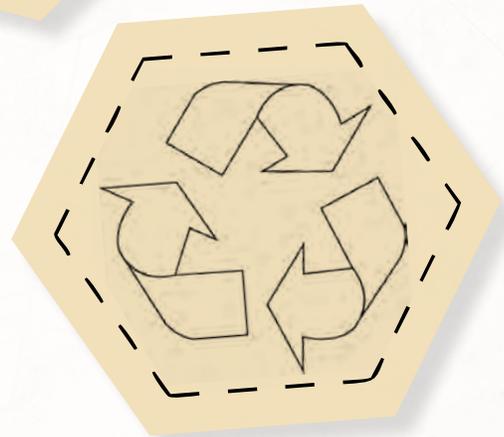
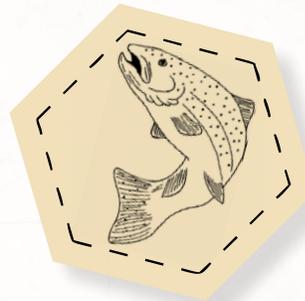
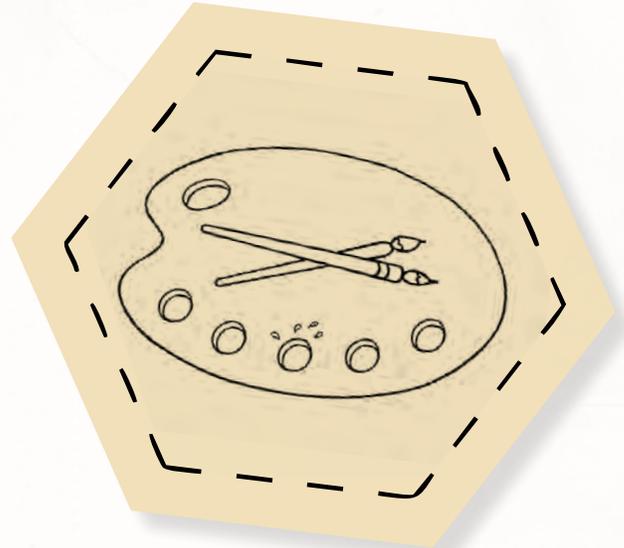
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Origami  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Origami  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging

**Mindy McCarthy: Mindy, #8448**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs

**Nancy Joplin: Nancy Joplin, #8352**

Beginner badge: Outpost / Disconnect to Reconnect  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Crochet  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Bee Good to Your Mother Earth  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Knitting  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Knitting  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Putting Away for Winter  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
Expert badge: Each Other / International Civics Challenge



continued...

Beginner badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Her-Story  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Her-Story  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Rocks and Minerals  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Wild Game  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Aprons  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Origami  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rythmatic  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Languages/Culture  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Languages/Culture  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Sew Wonderful  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Know Your Roots  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Let's Get Physical

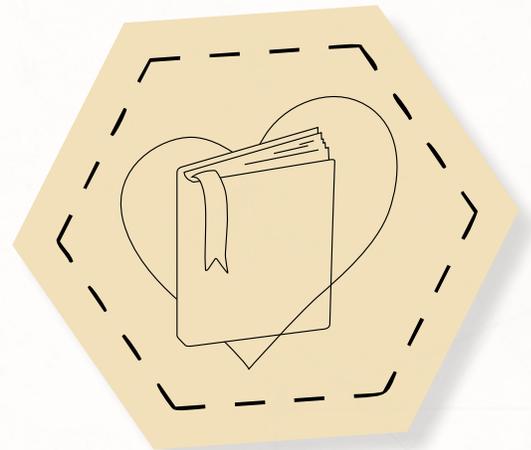
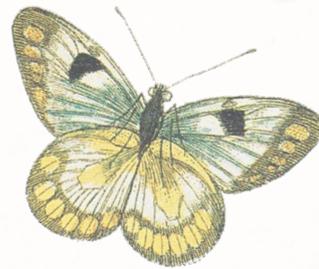
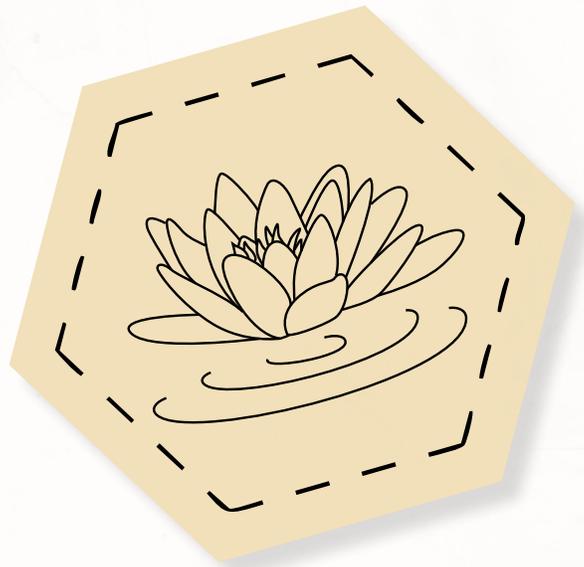
**Rea Nakanishi: Lacey, #8284**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Embroidery  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Green Energy  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / BakeOver MakeOver  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / BakeOver MakeOver  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / The Good, Bad, and Ugly ... Bugs  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Leave It Better Than You Found It  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Little Squirts  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Living Zero Waste  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Connecting Growers and Eaters  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Expert badge: Each Other / Civics Challenge  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Languages/Culture  
Beginner badge: Each Other / International Civics Challenge  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Forage for Food  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
Expert badge: Each Other / Civic Heritage



continued...

Beginner badge: Each Other / Families Forever  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Know Your Food  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Know Your Food  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Know Your Food  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Spinning  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Gratitude  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Gratitude  
Expert badge: Each Other / Know Your Roots  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Community Action  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Shutterbugs  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Cheesemaking  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Cheesemaking  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Pottery/Ceramics  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Pottery/Ceramics  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Pottery/Ceramics  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Her-story  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Weather  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Weather  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Weather  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Differing Abilities  
Expert badge: Each Other / Differing Abilities  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Disconnect to Reconnect  
Intermediate badge: Outpost / Farmgirl's Best Friend  
Beginner badge: Outpost / First Aid  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Geography  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Bibliophile Badging  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Grammar  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Horse Dreams  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Safe Toys  
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Mindfulness Meditation  
Expert badge: Make It Easy / Mindfulness Meditation  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Permaculture  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Orienteering  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / International Civics Challenge  
Expert badge: Outpost / Rocks and Minerals  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Recipes  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Mosaics  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Origami  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Bustin' Out  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Bustin' Out  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Food Allergy Awareness  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Self-sufficiency  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Birds  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / The Good, Bad, and Ugly ... Bugs  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Water Management  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Water Management  
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Collect It!  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Apples  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / In the Garden  
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / In the Garden  
Expert badge: Make It Easy / In the Garden



continued...

Intermediate badge: Each Other / Families Forever  
Expert badge: Each Other / Families Forever  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Entrepreneurial Spirit  
Intermediate badge: Outpost / First Aid  
Expert badge: Each Other / Languages/Culture  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Farmgirl Jubilee  
Beginner badge: Each Other / Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rythmatic  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Staying Green  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Staying Green  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Leave It Better Than You Found It  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Living Zero Waste  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Living Zero Waste  
Expert badge: Each Other / Greatest Generation  
Expert badge: Each Other / Little Squirts  
Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Music  
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Music  
Intermediate badge: Outpost / Geography  
Expert badge: Outpost / Geography  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Food Allergy Awareness  
Expert badge: Each Other / International Civics Challenge  
Intermediate badge: Each Other / Her-story  
Expert badge: Each Other / Her-story

**Roseanna Nicholson: Roseanna N., #8415**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Birds  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Birds

**Ruth Strutz: #8425**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Tatting  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Knitting  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / In the Garden  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs

**Sherri Carroll: Sherri, #1350**

Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Leatherworking  
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Leatherworking  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Staying Green  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Leave It Better Than You Found It  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / MaryJane's Better Butter  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Water Management  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Backyard Farmer

**Susan Daniel: subfarmgirl #3727**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch

**Susan Ownby: #8450**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Herbs  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Canning



continued...

Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Canning  
Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Canning  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Self-sufficiency  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Let's Get Physical

**Sylvia Platts: #4017**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Quilting  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Pampered Pets  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Bee Good to Your Mother Earth

**Teresa Roberson: Carolinacateyes, #7386**

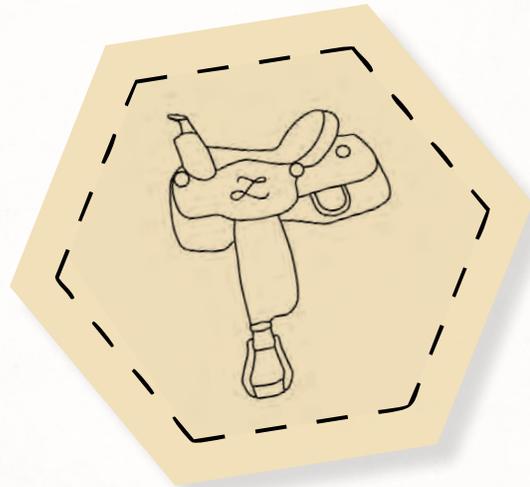
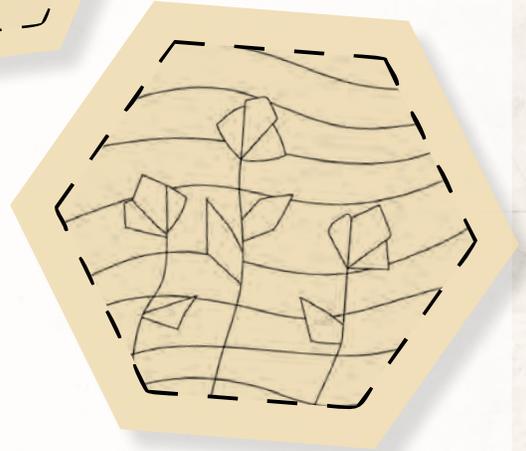
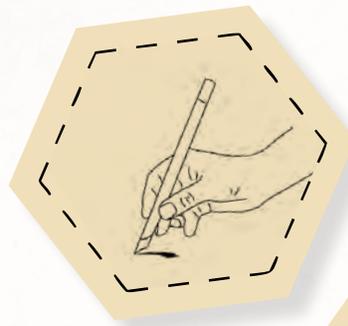
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Ink Slinger  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Know Your Food  
Expert badge: Outpost / Speak for the Trees  
Expert badge: Make It Easy / Let's Get Physical  
Intermediate badge: Outpost / Buzzin' Around  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Grease Chicks  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Build It Green  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / In the Garden

**Tiffany Kibler: #8421**

Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Going Green  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Recycling  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Candlemaking  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Water Conservation  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Home Insulation  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / My Fair Farmgirl  
Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together  
Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Get It Together

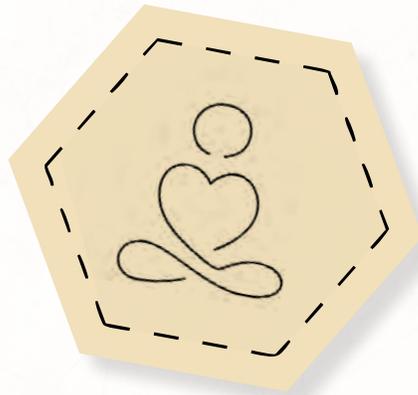
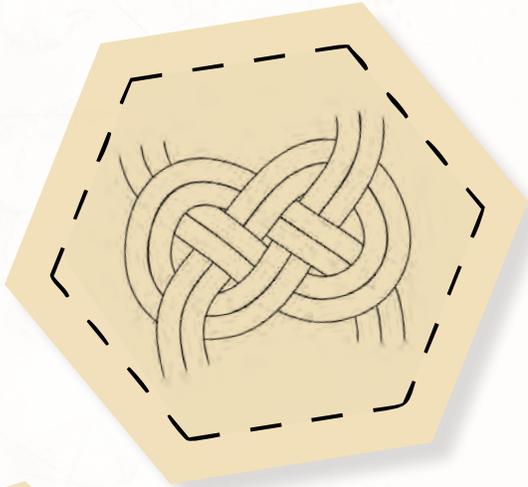
**Tina VanDaam: TinaTina, #8431**

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Crochet  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Shopping Green  
Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Jewelry Making  
Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Cross-Stitch  
Beginner badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Intermediate badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Expert badge: Cleaning Up / Path to Zero Waste  
Beginner badge: Outpost / Orienteering  
Intermediate badge: Outpost / Orienteering  
Expert badge: Outpost / Orienteering  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'  
Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'  
Expert badge: Garden Gate / Rootin' Tootin'  
Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Bee Good to Your Mother Earth

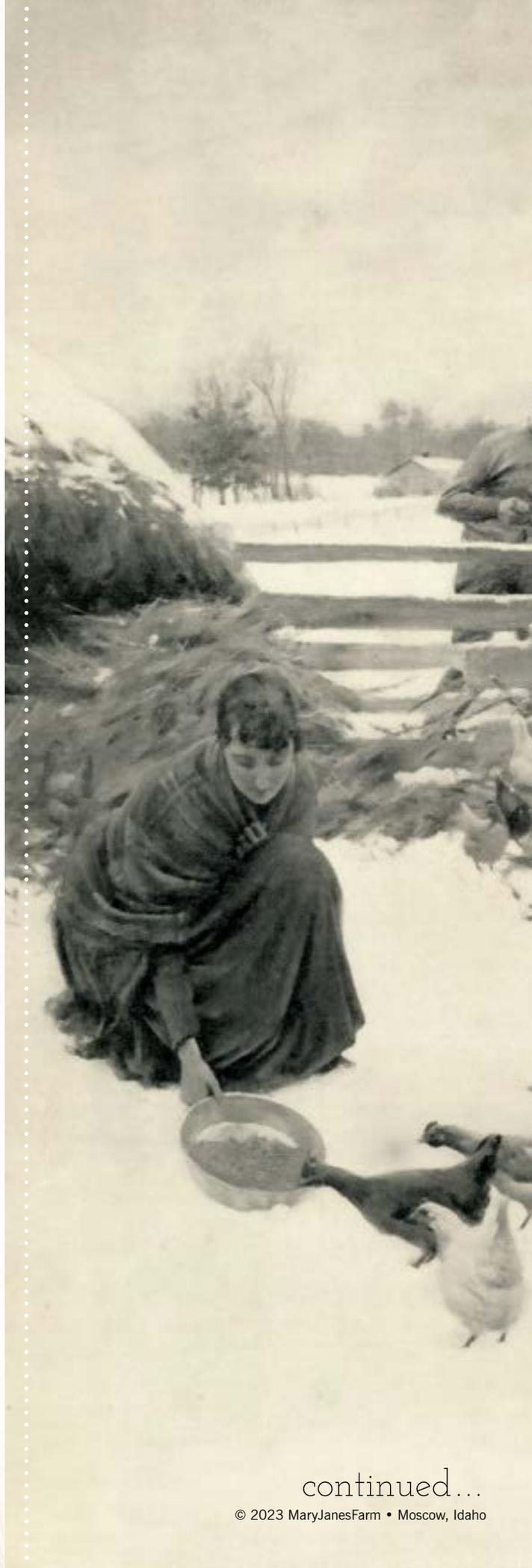


continued...

- Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Bee Good to You Mother Earth
- Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Sew Wonderful
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Gaining Ground
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / The Secret Life of Bees
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Herbs
- Intermediate badge: Garden Gate / Herbs
- Beginner badge: Garden Gate / 3 R's Rule (Reuse, Recycle, Revive!)



**8,500 Sisterhood members**  
and **14,246 Merit Badges**  
**earned**—growing stronger  
every day!





## Young Cultivator Merit Badge Awardees

Jan 1, 2022 to Dec 31, 2022

### **Alyssa Wood (Young Cultivator of Candy Hogan, #8283)**

Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / I Did It My Way

Expert badge: Make It Easy / I Did It My Way

Expert badge: Out There Kids / Park Place

Expert badge: Each Other / Community Service

Expert badge: Garden Gate / Bees R Us

### **Kenji Ford (Young Cultivator of Rea Nakanishi #8284)**

Beginner badge: Garden Gate / Horsing Around

Beginner badge: Out There Kids / Rock Out

Intermediate badge: Out There Kids / Rock Out

Expert badge: Out There Kids / Rock Out

Beginner badge: Stitching & Crafting / Toys

Intermediate badge: Stitching & Crafting / Toys

Expert badge: Stitching & Crafting / Toys

Beginner badge: Each Other / Let's Go to Town

Intermediate badge: Each Other / Let's Go to Town

Expert badge: Each Other / Let's Go to Town

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Do You Know the Muffin Man

Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Do You Know the Muffin Man

Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Do You Know the Muffin Man

Beginner badge: Out There Kids / Park Place

Intermediate badge: Out There Kids / Park Place

Expert badge: Out There Kids / Park Place

### **Kerry Yost (Young Cultivator of Kimberly Reineke: goodmedicine girl, #4826)**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake

Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake

### **Madison Joplin (Young Cultivator of Nancy Joplin #8352)**

Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake

Expert badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake

Beginner badge: Make It Easy / Put Me In, Coach!

Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / Put Me In, Coach!

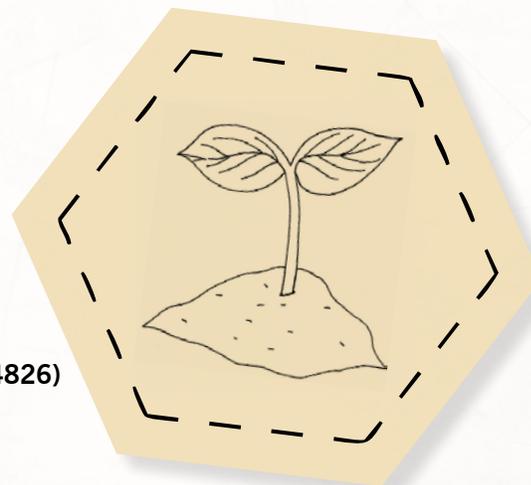
Beginner badge: Each Other / Let's Go To Town

### **Ramona Ruelas (Young Cultivator of Kimberly Reineke: goodmedicine girl, #4826)**

Beginner badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake

Intermediate badge: Farm Kitchen / Icing on the Cake

CLICK HERE TO  
SEE PAST LISTS  
OF MERIT BADGE  
AWARDEES.



continued...

**Theron Wood (Young Cultivator of Candy Hogan, #8283)**

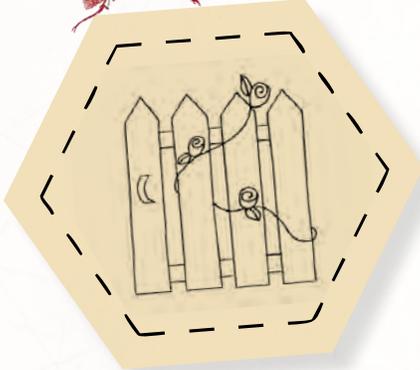
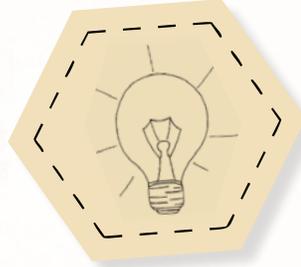
Intermediate badge: Make It Easy / I Did It My Way

Expert badge: Make It Easy / I Did It My Way

Expert Badge: Out There Kids / Park Place

Expert badge: Each Other / Community Service

Expert badge: Garden Gate / Bees R Us



**What's  
a Farmerette?**

Farmerettes are young farmgirls-in-training between the ages 14–18. They can earn the same Merit Badges as adult Sisters, so long as there is a Farmgirl Sisterhood member nearby to work with them. **Click here to find out more.**

**What's  
a Young Cultivator?**

Young Cultivators are girls and boys between the ages 6 and 13. They can work with Farmgirl Sisterhood members to earn badges, but have their own unique program. **Click here to find out more.**

