

# The Plain and Practical

Year Three, Issue Seventeen, Fourth/Fifth Month

“Live simply, that others might simply live.” Elizabeth Seaton

## We All Live In This Crazy Zoo

Now, some of you might remember my telling you about how my fourth grade class went to the zoo and we were assigned afterwards to write an essay concerning this event. Our titles had to be pre-approved by the teacher, and my topic I selected was “How a Zoo is like a Farm” and I busied myself with the task, pressing my grayed pencil to the lined paper again and again, erasing and perfecting the words which came so confidently from my small knowledge of farm and zoo husbandry. Being a creative child, I even included recipes and instructions (with pictures on the back of the pages) in my composition--Okapi Stroganoff, which I compared to our Angus Beef Cattle, and the telephone number the zoo could call to have Jerry’s Knacker Service come and pick up the ruminants. The tour guide had said Okapis were related to the giraffe, and I was pretty sure that the angus cows were all ruminants, too, but I wasn’t entirely sure what a ruminant was. There were recipes included to make Stewed Lemur and delicious sounding casseroles and fried snacks. The teacher was not amused and I ended up in Mr. Barkman’s office until my farmer grandmother rescued me.

I was telling someone the other day how to tie a knotted quilt and that old farming thing snuck out on me again because I guess I’d let my guard down. I told her to pull her knots tighter, more like when you’re castrating a piglet, and then I had to do a lot of explaining. There’s a current phrase going around in internet circles, “TMI,” for Too Much Information, and is used to describe, say, an office worker talking about her sex life or a woman at church going on way too long about her cutest grandchild’s toilet training, showing off pictures of the pudgy little guy on the pot. I think TMI describes telling someone to yank perle cotton like it’s a castration pull-tie on a piglet, and I apologize.

This farming thing sneaks into my life at all the angles, wiggles its way in to how I cook, do laundry, drive my truck, comb my hair. It’s in the way I maintain our shoes or pack for a trip, the way I walk, how many eggs I buy at the store and what kind. You meet me for five minutes and no matter how I try, you’ll know soon enough that it’s a country gal you have in front of you, tried and true. I’m not saying it’s better than city, but I like the thriftiness and practicality of the way I was raised to do things.

A woman was ahead of me in line at the Meijer’s the other day, and her bill was over \$300 for a cart load of processed foods, cleaning supplies, diapers, CDs, and the \$50 gift card she got for her daughter’s birthday. I was aghast. Mine was \$70 and that was bad enough, for a cart of vegetables, a Boston fern for the porch, milk products and two rolls of tape for crafting. I see processed foods for the microwave, and I think, “cheaper to make from scratch with a crock pot.” I see diapers and I think, have a few for babysitters and emergencies, but cloth is better for baby and cheaper in the long run. My cleaning supplies? Lemon juice, peroxide, vinegar, newspapers, and re-usable cloth cleaning towels I hemmed.

When I cook, I measure real butter and vegetable shortening and milk and eggs, with flour and corn meal and oatmeal and wheat bran. I use a rolling pin nearly every day, cutting boards and handmade knives I sharpen myself, a whisk and big bowls and yeast and a nice variety of spices. The cupboards have grains, lentils, beans, dried fruits and tofu, nuts, dried fungus and mushrooms, powdered milk, and several natural sweeteners. This may cost slightly more as in initial investment because of density, but pound for pound the food you find on your plate is less expensive than that prepared convenience stuff—and I’ve controlled the salt, sugar, additives, flavorings, coloring, and even the fat content.

I use the thrift stores for my fabric—a denim dress makes a great turn-around apron, they have full long skirts for a dollar or two. Linen tablecloths are for blouses and dresses and hand towels; sheets are for weaving and sewing fabric and crocheted rag rug making. When I got rid of all the non-stick stuff in my kitchen,  
(continued on page two)

## Take A Little Care With Packages

After forty years of mailing with the postal service, UPS, Fedex, and even shipping by bottom of Greyhound bus, I finally had something go missing. I’d sent a box of thrift store linens, a mohair blanket, sketches for patterns, and religious reading materials to a new Friend in Kentucky. Even though they had been robbed of a box at Christmastime and requested packages not be left at the bottom of their long driveway, that’s what the UPS deliverer did, and in less than 90 minutes someone stopped and stole it.

I filed paperwork and filled out forms and after a couple of months, was given the minimum \$100 they insure all their packages for (unless you ask for additional insurance). But it saddened me that whoever stole it, surely they didn’t need fabric, and those things that were purposeful and valuable to us were probably discarded as trash.

I’ve seen several complaints from Etsy sellers that packages are being taken from their porches—a neighbor or friend saw the box on the porch, but when coming home it was no longer there. Those were sent using the U. S. postal service.

I strongly recommend if you are going to be receiving a package, have it sent to the home of someone you know will be there all day. If it doesn’t have to come by UPS or Fedex, consider getting a post office box, where it will be safe until you can pick it up.

It’s a shame to think someone would steal your mail, but it happened to me. So take extra care with things that cannot be replaced—family photographs, heirlooms, sentimental items—and maybe wait until you can transport them personally, “with a kiss and a hug.”



An old snake goes to the Doctor. “Doc, I need something for my eyes...can’t see well these days”. The Doc fixes him up with a pair of glasses and tells him to return in 2 weeks. The snake comes back in 2 weeks and tells the doctor he’s very depressed. Doc says, “What’s the problem...didn’t the glasses help?” “The glasses are fine doc, I just discovered I’ve been living with a water hose the past 2 years!”

June, 2010				Sixth Month		
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

12th: New Moon  
26th: Full moon

June 14th is Flag Day  
June 20th, Father’s Day  
June 21st, First Day of Summer

“There are two seasons in Scotland:  
June and winter.” Billy Connolly

“And let them pass, as they will too soon, with the  
bean-flowers’ boon, and the blackbird’s tune, and  
May, and June!” Robert Browning

Famous Ladies Named June—Can you match the June, to the Fact about her?  
(answers upside down on page two)

June Carter Cash	The DuPont Show (1959-1961)
June Evelyn Bronson Cleaver	Busty dancer in “Twist All Night”
June Haver	Children’s book author
June Allyson	Voice of Rocky the Squirrel
June Lockhart	Country Music Star, wife of Johnny
June Foray	Hollywood Pinup Girl
June Wilkinson	Famous Craft Blogger
June Gilbank	Purveyor of handmade preserves
June Taylor	Starred in American Geisha and Shogun
June Sobel	Beaver’s Mother
June Angela	Miss USA 1970

(continued from page one) I replaced it all with used glass pots, steel skillets, and steel trays for less than \$50.

A farmer would never just run up to the store either. You grow up in farm country, and you make yourself a weekly or monthly list of store stuff—and do without meanwhile. I remember the first time my husband reached into Grandpa Max's refrigerator for milk and Max said, "No, get that other one over there, this here's my cooking milk." Poor city husband almost lost his appetite when he saw Max pouring the clotted milk into a casserole later that afternoon. I did a little explaining about sour cream, yogurt, cultured and homogenized and separated and so on. The "old" milk is good for pancakes and casseroles and baking bread and all sorts of healthy things. We'd mix pickle relish (homemade) with mayonnaise and that was tartar sauce. We'd never be caught dead using liquid eggs in a carton, crack some of these here big brown free-range ones instead. We cured our own bacon and hams, canned the garden into the basement each summer, and that disgusting stuff drawing all the gnats on the counter is Grandmother Mexie's Christmas fruitcake "getting ripe."

That farm stuff just keeps on in your bloodstream forever until you die. I still use a clothesline but hang my underwear indoors away from prying eyes, and you betcha I pre-treat stains and soak my whites because God knows the whole neighborhood walks through the alley and might see that husband dribbled ketchup down his good white shirt, if I don't take care of it properly. I sweep the porch and fluff the couch pillows in the living room "in case someone drops by" and turn on the porch lights at dusk "for safety." Burnt cookies are broken in two and flung out the back door under cover of darkness, but stale homemade bread is torn up and put in the bird feeder in the front, near the sidewalk, so's people can see I bake my own when I can get around to it.

Every summer I take my now 12-year-old truck to the car wash and give it a good scrubbing and rinsing, drive it home and park in the shade and with cardboard to mask in one hand and spray primer or paint in the other, I go around and spot treat all the rusty spots for the year. 209,000 miles and it's still going strong. A country gal remembers to check the usability of the "real" spare tire in the bed of the truck and carries her own tools, jumper cables, all the liquids that might need to be poured in here or there, duct tape, a couple of wire coat hangers, and of course four tie-downs in case I come across a motorcyclist. That little Toyota is low enough, some tattooed tired biker and I can get it into the truck and fasten it down and get them off the highway to somewhere for repairs, gasoline, or a friend's house for the night.

There's usually a mason jar within three feet of me. That's the most popular drinking container around this house! Iced teas of all flavors, a quart of milk with cookies, iced water while out in the midday doing errands. We use our oven, the crock pot's going with beans, there's herbs drying from a rod between the kitchen cupboards. Soon it will be time to do pickles, then tomatoes and vegetable soup base, then applesauce, then soon after that I'll be watching the gnats exploring the kitchen, trying to find the wintertime fruitcake getting ripe, just like in grandma's kitchen.

All those crazy people you hear about—out there in the Zoo—you just remember they aren't in your home. Just let in that which you approve of, live the gentle life, be resourceful and clever with what comes into your hands. And most of all, in this crazy Zoo we all live in, don't forget it's okay to laugh like a hyena, dance like a gazelle, sit yourself down in a pool on really hot days, do a little fishin' like the bears, and scurry around like a squirrel to clean now and then. Build your nest, line it with your love, and remember to come home at night. Eat well, drink water, and don't forget to give thanks to God for the blessing to do of the above!

### Simple Home Made

There's lots of good reasons to prepare your own dried beans—less salt, no chemicals lining the inside of the cans, less weight to carry home and into the house, uses water your body is used to, and saves money. I like this method:

Rinse and check over 2-4 pounds of dry beans (kidney, black, northern, canary, whatever kind you desire). Pull out any broken or odd ones.

Place into a crock pot after dinner with 3-4 quarts of water, and turn on high. When you are ready to go to bed, turn onto medium for the night.

In the morning, your beans should be well cooked and ready to be made into soups, casseroles, cooled for salads, or stored for future meals in the refrigerator or freezer. Simply drain off the water, and they are ready!

As of 2:31 p.m. on April 9, 2010, the total cost for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, since 2001, was \$ 998, 187, 106, 299. 00

**National Priorities Project [www.costofwar.com](http://www.costofwar.com)**

**Sometimes we are in a situation where we know "just the right thing" is in the Bible somewhere, but can't recall it immediately. Here's a little "crib sheet" to help you out!**

**When an ambulance, fire truck, or police vehicle races by you with its sirens on—**

**Psalm 138:7-8**

**When others always seem to have money and you don't—**

**Proverbs 13:11**

**When someone says they feel depressed and lost—**

**Luke 15: 4-7**

**Psalm 9: 9-10**

**When someone wishes they were rich—**

**Matthew 19: 24**

**When someone wants more friends—**

**Proverbs 18: 24**

**When you can't decide if you should donate today—**

**Proverbs 3: 27**

**When you hear someone's in the hospital—**

**Matthew 25: 34-40**

June Carter Cash/Country Music Star  
June Evelyn Cleaver/Beaver's Mother  
June Haver/Hollywood Pinup Girl  
June Allyson/The DuPont Show (1959-1961)  
June Lockhart/Miss USA 1970  
June Foray/Voice of Rocky the Squirrel  
June Wilkinson/Busy dancer in "Twist All Night"  
June Gillbank/Famous Craft Blogger  
June Taylor/Purveyor of handmade conserves  
June Sobel/Children's book author  
June Angela/Starred in American Geisha and Shogun

Tom Smith started the day early having set his alarm clock (Made in Japan ) for six a.m. While his coffeepot (Made in China) was perking, he shaved with his electric razor (Made in Hong Kong). He put on a dress shirt (Made in Sri Lanka), brand new men's designer jeans (Made in Singapore) and tennis shoes (Made in Korea). After cooking his breakfast in his new electric skillet (Made in India), he sat down with his calculator (Made in Mexico) to see how much longer his unemployment would last, now that he'd lost his job at the local plant.

After setting his watch (Made in Taiwan) to the radio (Made in India) he got in his car (Made in Germany) filled it with gasoline (from Saudi Arabia) and continued his search for a good paying AMERICAN JOB by going to four temp agencies and being told they had so many people registered, and so few opportunities for work, they weren't accepting any more applicants.

At the end of another discouraging and fruitless day checking his Computer (Made In Malaysia), Joe put on his sandals (Made in Brazil) turned on his TV (Made in Indonesia ), and then wondered why he can't find a good paying job in AMERICA?

Every purchase you make has a consequence for others whose livelihood depends up on manufacture of raw materials, production, distribution and sales—when you buy from other countries, the money goes to others—not Joe's Machine Shop, not Sandy's Tailor Made Dresses, not Ralph's Cabinetry and Woodworks. Your dollar, every time you trade it to a foreigner for cheap "planned obsolescence" goods, robs you—and your neighbor—and your grandchildren, of a living wage.

### Editor's notes

Owners: Craig and Valerie Hibbard. Expenses covered by Editors until successful enough to stand on its own. Ads selected by Editors and given freely, and we reserve the right to refuse any ads. Email comments to

[valerie@plainandpractical.com](mailto:valerie@plainandpractical.com), or mail to: 3406 Kingston Avenue, Grove City, OH 43123. We'd like to hear your comments. You may read PNP free on the web at [plainandpractical.com](http://plainandpractical.com), or order print copies by writing or emailing the editors.

One of the reasons I like to be involved in Etsy.com, the place where I have a “store” for selling my handmade items and also my supplies I come across for others, is that they have many, many work-at-home Christian moms who are trying to augment their family income while still being Keepers At Home.

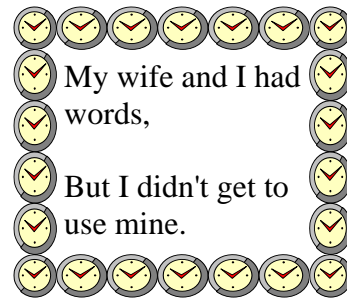
God's Word embroidered on a quilt makes a sweet gift for your child or grandchild. I make custom quilts with the verse of your choice embroidered around the border, or in one or more of the quilt blocks. The quilt can be any size from a baby crib quilt to a large bed sized quilt. You can also choose the colors in the quilt. To see examples of my work, check out my online Etsy store, [www.kimbuktu.etsy.com](http://www.kimbuktu.etsy.com) Or you can write me at: **Kimbuktu**, P.O. Box 1253, Latham, New York, 12110 for a color brochure.

**Fashion Green T Bags**—Strong reusable bags fashioned from gently worn tank and t-shirts. We also sell aprons created from used dresses and skirts. Profits donated to our local food bank. Many bags are available in \$4-6 range, and can be used hundreds of times--solids and slogans both! See our Etsy store at <http://fashiongreentbags.etsy.com> or telephone us at (330) 678-5566, Monday through Saturday 12 to 6 p.m. Bulk orders (at reduced prices) welcomed.

**Artist Impressions from Life**

I sell landscape & portrait paintings which I paint on location, standing at my easel. I also enjoy doing quick pencil portraits at festivals. God is Spirit. He is Life. He is the creator of life. What an exhilarating experience it is to study the actual subjects of God's handiwork. Recently I have been teaching Plein Air painting classes at the Hoyt Art Center in New Castle, Pa. This fall I will teach impressionist/Plein Air painting at the YMCA in Boardman, Ohio. Currently my paintings are on sale at the Hoyt Gift Shop in New Castle and the Artist Sales Gallery at the Butler Institute of fine Art in Youngstown, Ohio. My paintings are usually sized from 8" X 10" up to 20" X 24".Cards and Giclees are also available. For information write or call Nancy Hawkins at 5190 Kirk Road, Columbiana, OH 44408, Phone 330-429-5686 [artistimpressionsfromlife.blogspot.com](http://artistimpressionsfromlife.blogspot.com)

**Just For Those Feelin' Older These Days—**



**The irony of life is that, by the time you're old enough to know your way around, you're not going anywhere.**



**I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one.**



When I was younger, I could remember anything, whether it had happened or not; but my faculties are decaying now and soon I shall be so I cannot remember any but the things that never happened. It is sad to go to pieces like this but we all have to do it.  
Mark Twain

**Brother, Can You Spare A—Quarter?**

I'm making a list  
And checking it thrice  
Of things you can do  
That are really quite nice

None more than a Quarter  
A thin bit of change  
Frown for a smile,  
A Christian exchange

Hand off your cart at Aldi's,  
A Penny for a pony ride  
Hand someone an extra sack  
Leave a note expressing pride

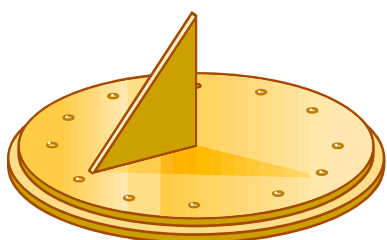
Tell the clerk she's quick  
Give a friend a mint,  
Cup of cool water  
To the one on the bench

Help reach down the book  
From the library rack,  
Offer to trim flowers  
Donate some sacks

Print off the map  
For the friend who's unclear  
Post free on Craigslist,  
That unwanted gear

When you sweep your porch  
Sweep the walk too  
A smooth path for neighbors  
Exercise for you

So when someone tells you  
Their pocket's too poor,  
It's only a matter  
Of a quarter, for sure!



A man was driving along a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman behind him was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer.

The officer ordered her to exit her car. After arresting her, he took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk; so naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car."

The idea for an official Father's Day celebration came to a married daughter, seated in a church in Spokane, Washington, attentive to a Sunday sermon on Mother's Day in 1910, two years after the first Mother's Day observance in West Virginia.

The daughter was Mrs. Sonora Smart Dodd. During the sermon, which extolled maternal sacrifices made for children, Mrs. Dodd realized in her own family it had been her father, William Jackson Smart, a Civil War vet, who had sacrificed to raise herself and five sons alone due to the death of his wife in childbirth. For Mrs. Dodd, the hardships her father had endured on their eastern Washington farm called to mind the unsung feats of fathers everywhere.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson and his family personally observed the day. And in 1924, President Calvin Coolidge recommended that states, if they wished, should hold their own Father's Day. In 1957, Senator Margaret Chase Smith wrote forcefully to Congress that "Either we honor both our parents, mother and father, or let us desist from honoring either one." Eventually in 1972, Father's Day was permanently established by President Richard Nixon. ([ideafinder.com](http://ideafinder.com) site).

Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you.  
Carl Sandburg

## ***A Few Plain and Practical Resources for Self-Sufficiency***

(Editor's Note: Most are known personally to us, some are by reader referral—you'll need to make your own decisions regarding giving your custom. This issue of PNP also has other sellers listed throughout for further resources for you.)

### **Bulk Food Stores and Mail order Foods**

**Clintonville Community Market**, 200 Crestview Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43202, 614-261-3663  
**Yutzy's Bulk Foods**, 614-873-3815, 6010 Converse Huff Road, Plain City, Ohio 43064  
**Countryside Bulk Foods**, 4230 West Pike, Zanesville, OH 43701, telephone 740-450-1595  
**Bulk Food Depot**, 5457 Radford Road, Athens, OH 45701, 740-594-5053.  
**Apple Hill Ltd.**, 8690 Vermilion Road, Amherst, OH 44001-9475. Telephone 440-965-7077  
**Coon's Candies**, 16451 County Highway 113, Harpster, OH 43323, telephone 740-496-4141  
**American Harvest** 51323 County Road 16, Coshocton, OH 43812, 740-622-2855  
**Swiss Village** 309 S. Broadway St., Sugarcreek, OH 44681, telephone 330-852-2896

### **Sewing and Crafting Supplies**

**Scrap Leather, lacing, and hides**, all American leather, Real Leather People, P. O. Box 251, Sonora, KY 42776 or 270-369-8880 or sales@realleatherpeople.com  
**Make your own brooms**—American-grown Broomcorn and supplies at R.E. Caddy, Box 14634, Greensboro, N.C. 27415, 336-273-3609.  
**Sewing Supplies**, Home-Sew Inc., P. O. Box 4099, Bethlehem, PA. 18018-0099, 1-800-344-4739, homesew.com.  
**Linen and wool fabrics**, 1-888-546-3654, FabricsStore.Com, 6325 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite #102, Hollywood CA 90038  
**Countryroad Fabrics and Gifts**, 2195 N 700W Shippshewana, Indiana, 46565, good resource for fabrics, snaps, prayer caps, and more.  
**Raw Wool for Spinning at \$2-4 pound**, also well priced natural roving, and shepherd's supplies, Mid-States Wool Growers Co-op, 9449 Basil Western Road, Canal Winchester, OH, 43110-9278, 614-837-9665, call for hours and directions.  
**Wm. Booth, Draper**. 18th century reenactment supplies, I get my linen thread, horn thimbles, and other well-made, old fashioned items from this resource, 2115 Ramada Drive, Racine, WI. 53406, or, <http://wmboothdraper.com>, or 815-648-9048.  
**Peaches and Cream cotton yarns**, made in USA, 828-668-7667, Pisgah Yarn Company, 550 Orchard Street, Old Fort, NC 28762.

### **Clothing Patterns and Ready Made**

**Modest clothing patterns for women and girls**, Candle on the Hill, R 139 E. Townline Rd., Athens, WI, 54411, or email: info@candleonthehill.net  
**Gohn Brothers**, Box 1110, Middlebury, Indiana 46540-1110, toll free number 1-800-595-0031. All sewing done by local seamstresses to your measurements, at very reasonable prices for good quality.  
**Prayer caps** (crisp mesh style), Plain and Simple Head coverings, Bayley Thompson, P. O. Box 185, Bagdad, KY 40003.  
**Aprons, Dresses and Coverings**, Mennonite Maidens, <http://www.mennonitemaiden.com>, or orders by phone, 703-622-3018 or 304-492-5590. Wide variety of all offerings, reasonable prices.  
**GVS**, clothing for the entire family, baby supplies, toys, stationary, sewing supplies—many hard to find items. Highway 5, Versailles, MO 65084.

### **Housewares and Home Needs**

**Non-electrical tools and household goods**, Lehman's, 877-438-5346, or write for a catalog, 289 N. Kurzen Rd., Dalton, OH 44618.  
**Healthy natural soaps and salves**, Cindy High, 905 Egeler Lane, Dexter, MI 48130  
**Quaker Hill Farm**, children's books, P. O. Box 10, Harrisville, MI 48742 (recently featured on Animal Planet!) Quaker Anne has all kinds of good things made from her farm, web site is [www.quakeranne.com](http://www.quakeranne.com)  
**Sisterthreads** is a group of three Christian women who sew together in the daughter's house amongst her four children, one of which is special-needs. Although they focus on quilts, they also do a variety of purses and organizers for knitting needles, crochet hooks and other sewing items. By mail: Sister Threads, P. O. Box 91, Herrietta, MI, 49638, or telephone, 231-389-0253.  
**Lora Yapp**, 76 Twp Rd 1336, South Point, OH 45680-7888, for lemongrass soap, as well as many other kinds. Several sampler sizes for fair prices. Available in multiples for favors, too.  
**Home Remedies**, Wellness Service, 420 Weaver Road, Millersburg, PA, 17061, books, supplements, oils, massage tools.  
**Treadle Sewing Machine support group**, TreadleOn, <http://www.treadleon.net/> Parts, repairs, maintenance, advice.

### **Support for Becoming or Learning About Being Plain**

**You can write or email to me:** see editor's box. I can provide rough sketches for clothes and will gladly answer any questions to the best of my ability—Valerie  
**Quaker Jane**—a@quakerjane.com, she has the best and most thorough site for those who have questions about becoming Plain  
**Quaker Anne**—See Quaker Hill Farm under “housewares,” above  
**Headcovering statement** based on scripture—Plainly Dressed's web page, <http://plainlydressed.com/headcoveringinformationfile.html>

### **Christian Reading Materials/Non-mainstream Informational Resources**

**Keepers At Home magazine** (Plain homemakers) \$13 year/4 issues. 2673 Township Road 421, Sugarcreek, OH 44681  
**An Encouraging Word**, P. O. Box 374, Covert, MI, 49043, \$20/year includes yours and one gift subscription.  
**Plain Interests newspaper** (Plain lifestyle), 420 Weaver Road, Millersburg, PA, 17061. Monthly, \$16 yearly.  
**Pendle Hill Bookstore** (a Quaker publishing house and retailer of Quaker literature), 338 Plush Hill Road, Wallingford, PA, 19086-6099, or telephone 1-800-742-3150 ext. 2. Bookstore email, bookstore@pendlehill.org  
**Rod and Staff Publishing**, cookbooks, homeschooling, religious reading, 606-522-4348, P. O. Box 3, Hwy. 172, Crockett, KY 41413-0003.  
**Homeschooling, Pastoral, and Bible Study Reference Supplies**, Christianbook offers free catalogs, call 1-800-CHRISTIAN, or write your request to Christianbook, 140 Summit Street, Peabody, MA 01960.  
**The Budget**, a Mennonite rural newspaper, P. O. Box 249, 134 N. Factory Street, Sugarcreek, OH, 44681. Several editions, so ask for information, 330-852-4634.  
**Farm And Dairy**, rural interests newspaper for farmers, P. O. Box 38, 185 E. State Street, Salem, OH 44460, 1-800-837-3419.  
**Ridgeway Books**, toll free at 888-822-7894, or 3129 Fruit Avenue, Medina, NY 14103. Extensive Christian selection, ask for catalog.

**Our Little Grocery Store Update:** We've been looking at property to rent just outside the Columbus beltway, and making lists of resources and items we hope to carry in our opening inventory. We need to save a bit more, but we are confident that if it is in God's plan for this store to open, it will happen when the time is right. Thank you all for your prayers in our behalf. I've been keeping busy sewing placemats, aprons, towels, and other household things to help extend the inventory, as well as bargain-hunting for vintage cookbooks for resale.

*“Unless you're a jockey or a prizefighter, what you weigh doesn't mean a hoot. How you FEEL is everything.”*