



Editor's
Note

Gifts My Parents Gave Me

While I was growing up, my family often went camping out West in the summertime, just as my mom and dad did when they were first married. With great enthusiasm, Mom would point out the mountains, trees, flowers and animals to my siblings and me as we drove through beautiful landscapes. And I would be in the back seat, yawning, with my head in a book.

It wasn't until I went away to college and came home for one of these trips that I was truly moved by the beauty around me. The history of the land fascinated me and I couldn't wait to learn more, see more, do more. I started leading our group on the hiking trails, pointing out trees and rocks and placing a finger to my lips to hush everyone when I thought I heard a lizard or snake underfoot.

I finally knew how my mom must have felt the first time she saw the West. At last I understood the gift my mom had been trying to give us for so many years and I felt closer to her than ever before. I told Mom that had we grown up at the same time, I was sure we would've been best friends.

The summer after I turned 9 years old, Dad took my sister Sharyl and me out for a special "date." I think he knew that, while we loved our twin siblings Jamie and David, sharing our parents with toddlers was hard. So Dad promised his older girls dinner and a movie.

We chose The Tivoli, an Italian restaurant we loved for its spumoni and elegant, candlelit dining room.

When we got there, Dad winked at the host and asked for the "best table in the house." Never mind that each table was equally great. We floated to our seats like princesses. We were having dinner with the greatest man on earth. Dad's strength has always amazed me. He is capable of showing emotion without ever appearing weak and, to this day, his presence makes me feel secure.



PHOTO: PEGGY EISENSTEIN

Summertime holds dear memories for me and we celebrate two special holidays during this season: Mother's Day and Father's Day.

The glorious weather combined with holidays, graduations and weddings offer us opportunities to gather the family. But do you really need an excuse to bring family and friends together?

Many of you take your entertaining outdoors. And what better time of year to enjoy a picnic? This issue is filled with projects and recipes to make your picnic picture perfect!

Thank you for all of your letters! I've enjoyed learning about the stitching group revival that seems to be sweeping your neighborhoods. It's clear that there's been a return to the simpler things in life, and to more value placed on handmade items.

Please let me know if there is a certain type of project that you would like to see covered in *Crafts Edition*. I'll do my best to accommodate your requests. Just keep those letters coming!

Send your letters to: *FLOWER & GARDEN Crafts Edition*, 700 W. 47th St., Ste. 310, Kansas City, MO 64112.

— Jessie Eisenstein

In The Next Issue

The July-August 1997 issue is full of fun, garden-inspired projects as well as back-to-school ideas. You'll also get patterns for two sweaters: "Football Hero" and "Kids 'N' Cows."

You'll get a variety of needlework projects: cross stitch, crochet, knit and tat. And of course, we'll include some quick and easy craft ideas and recipes. See you then!

How to Make...

Rita's However- You-Top-It Turkey Bun.

Louis Rich® gives you three different, delicious meats to choose from. Just start with any of the deliciously smoked or roasted Louis Rich® Deli-Thin® meats, and go from there.

- Louis Rich Deli-Thin® Variety-Pak® (any meat you want)
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- Crumbled Feta Cheese
- Fresh Tomato Slices
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