



## It's That Time

### A letter from the editor of Hobby Farm Home

by Karen K. Acevedo

Here we go again toward a major change in the season ... Goodbye to the hot and humid days of summer chores; hello to the crisp, breezy evenings of fall festivities: football games, bonfires, Halloween and harvest festivals.

Welcome! There is nothing I love more than the day I get to bring home a truckload of pumpkins and gourds, setting up autumnal displays everywhere. If you're like me, you love fall because it ushers in an extremely creative time of year—the most creative in my opinion—when we embrace crafts, cooking, gift-giving and giving thanks. We finally get the time to indulge such luxuries and the great outdoors provides the inspiration, free of charge.

This issue of Hobby Farm Home offers so many fun ideas for fall and winter: hosting a fabulous potluck (page 44); making homemade beeswax candles (page 98); creating your very own cookbook, no publisher necessary! (page 18); cooking up old-fashioned candy like you remember from childhood (page 36); and, for those of you with some serious time on your hands, or with a very adventurous spirit: making your own beauty products from wild herbs (page 24). I can't decide which project to start first!

The article near and dear to my heart is Lisa Kivirist's "Harvest & Hibernate" on page 66. After years of living and working in corporate America, Lisa has certainly learned how to absorb every morsel of joy from life on the farm. She's dedicated herself to constantly inventing new, special traditions and little ways to simply welcome each season with grace, and an accompanying ceremony. Lisa always inspires me to put real thought into my activities, to plan for the future and to dream big.

My dream farm project, currently taking shape, is to build a stand-alone workshop/photo studio for myself where I can work creatively without pesky interruptions like the phone, the e-mail, the housework and the husband. How nice would it be to watch the snow fall outside my studio as I piece together my own cookbook or crochet cool sweaters and scarves? I imagine it with a big, wooden farm table in the middle of the room, and lots of counter space and cubby holes, all organized with supplies and books. I'd tack up all manner of inspiration for projects on large corkboards and let the creative juices flow! The likelihood of this project turning into reality is a long shot, but it sure is nice to dream ... big!

Enjoy this very special time of year and take steps to turn your long shots into realities.

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