

Saturday Meanderings



Happy Saturday! My hope is that Saturday Meanderings is to have a conversation with you about odds and ends about the previous week. So pull up a chair and grab a cup of coffee and let's chat.

Boy did this week fly by and it is a stressful one that I am happy to have behind me. Do you ever have one of those weeks that everything you touch doesn't go smoothly? The planets feel a bit misaligned for me lately.



My goal of heading back to Phoenix this week from our cabin is delayed due to car trouble. Finding a *big* puddle of pink fluid under the car didn't bode well and this creates a delay in my trip home. As I am writing this post, I am awaiting to hear the status. If I didn't have a million things to do in the Valley, I'd love to stay here. But I cannot complain to have another few days in our beautiful mountain weather.

I did start a new project with hopes of sharing it with you today, but that too, did not go according to plan. Last month, I wrote a blog post indicating my desire to add more Scandinavian touches to our mountain cabin. (see blog post [here](#)). Well, the re-painting of this chest of drawers is my first real attempt to do so. Here is a sneak peak.



Cabinet before



This cabinet has 8 drawers of varying sizes. I have 6 of the 8 painted as my dilemma seems to be the these two drawers that are different from all the others. The two center drawers looks like 8 smaller ones with 8 ring pulls. So long story

short, I decided to wait for the new pulls to arrive before I determine what the painting design will be. And the pulls came in the wrong size and I was 2 pulls short.



So as of today, the project is stalled until the new hardware comes in...and for my next trip to the cabin.

Mindful Minute



[View this post on Instagram](#)



What is something you've always wanted, but don't yet have? Please join me for a mindful moment, take time for yourself, reduce stress and anxiety, and breathe.

A post shared by Chas' Crazy Creations (@chascrazycreations) on Sep 17, 2020 at 8:55am PDT

Since this week held more stress than others, I am so grateful to have access to Mindful Minutes. If you aren't familiar with this, I cannot recommend it enough. My friend, Chas (from Chas' Crazy Creations) has daily exercises on Instagram to reduce stress and they are a minute long. But I can honestly say, the one minute of taking a break from the computer (or other chores) and doing her brief exercises and breathing techniques is a LIFE SAVER. Seriously, it is the best thing you can do for yourself every day.

In addition, Chas is such a kind soul. She is the type of friend all of us need. Please get to know her. You will be so delighted that you did. Here is her [link](#) to Instagram; and her [link](#) to her blog.

Someone or something stole my pears



Last year, lo and behold, I discovered we have a pear tree at our cabin. This tree NEVER produced fruit before and was shockingly, full of pears. This year, the pear tree is also producing a great deal of fruit. Until this week. It has two pears left. The rest of the pears are GONE.

It's a mystery as the pears are not on the ground. They have just vanished. Does anyone have any idea why this would happen? Is there a local pear thief? An animal?



Naturally I am so disappointed because last year I made the best pear dessert, A Pear and Caramel Pie (see recipe [here](#)) and pear preserves. Looks like I will just need to purchase some pears from the Farmers Market.

Rosary Beads



I recently received a payment for some work I was subpoenaed to do for a law firm who is suing the City. Long story, but lots of nastiness involved. Since the check felt like dirty money to me, I spent it on a set of rosary beads. If you have been following me from the beginning, you know I collect rosary beads (see post [here](#)).



[Seraphym Designs](#), based out of Santa Fe, New Mexico makes the most gorgeous original heirloom rosary beads. Each design is carefully handcrafted in the United States and contains replicated devotional metals that date between the 14th and 19th centuries. In 2015, Seraphym Designs was commissioned to make an original St. Serra rosary for Pope Francis during his visit to the US.

Not only does the founder, Arasely Rios creates rosaries but she also makes beautiful jewelry. If you are looking for a unique one of a kind gift (they have a wedding rosary), I suggest you visit their website. And now I feel like I took bad money and spent it on something good.

Drone Video on my last Restoration

Video done by Austin Ely

Recently I was contacted by the owner of my last restoration remodel asking if I would give permission for the before and after photos to be used for a virtual historical home tour. Looking back at previous projects is such fun, as I forget many of the details over time.

Here is a 2:33 minute drone video that was done after the completion of the Willetta Restoration. I truly think it is

one of my best renovations. Video created by Austin Ely. To see more information on this 1922 Jeffersonian home, please click [here](#).

Thank you for all the great advice



I hope you read the blog post this week on rejuvenating my fabric pumpkins. So many people offered solutions to the bug infestation (thank you, bay leaves) and alternative filling. Instead of rice or beans which tend to get bugs, readers suggested pebbles and cat litter. Such great ideas and I cannot wait to try them.

Always love getting feedback from you! If you missed this easy DIY post, click [here](#).

Beginners Blogging Retreat



Small Group Blogging Retreat for Beginners

As you know, I started blogging to keep a living record of life here around our historic property/farm. And for the first few years, I happily dabbled in it. Last year I attended my first blogging seminar and realized just how much I don't know.

I set my sights this year to learn more, because if you are always learning you are always growing, right? Well, there is SO much to learn about blogging and who knew? I certainly didn't. But what I have learned is that what works for one person who has been blogging for 10 years, doesn't necessarily work in today's social media saturated world.



So, a group of talented friends are putting together a Beginner's Blogging Retreat and we are holding it here at Bella Terra. If you are interested or have friends who are interested, please click [here](#).

The seminar is for the person who either wants to start a blog or is in the beginning stages. It will be a fun day here at Bella Terra with good food, new friends, great information with lots of personal attention. Plus there is a discount for those who sign up before October 15.

We know that in light of COVID the world can change on a dime, but we are limiting the class to 10-12. It will be held on our back terrace, which is outdoors and has plenty of room to social distance. And it will be on November 12th when the weather is glorious.

If this is your jam, we hope you will consider attending! Also, feel free to reach out to me if you have questions or concerns.



Last fall~trip to Connecticut

That's All Folks!

Well, that about wraps it up for this Saturday. Hoping your week went well. Thank you all for joining me! The official first day of fall is just around the corner! As soon as I get

to Phoenix, fall planting begins! Stay safe and healthy out there!

Mary

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