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# CRAFTY VISIONS

## Newsletter

December, 1999

Published by



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## **Letter From Laurieann**

Hi Fellow Crafters,

The Holiday season is here and Y2K is just around the corner! 1999 has been a very exciting year on the Web. We now have over 15,000 subscribers and the newsletter is now being published monthly.

None of this could have been possible without the continued support of the [Bluebonnet Crafters](#). They have worked hard to provide a great variety of crafts, profiles and tips for the [Crafty Visions Newsletter](#). We would like to take this opportunity to thank [Ann Peterson](#), [Cynthia Farabee](#) and [Nora Creech](#) and to ask all of you to visit the [Bluebonnet Village \(http://bluebonnetvillage.com\)](http://bluebonnetvillage.com) where you will find all sorts of information on crafts including book reviews, sources of craft materials, artist profiles and more!

Don't forget to check out the [1999 Web of Angels \(http://craftycollege.com/webofangels/\)](http://craftycollege.com/webofangels/), sponsored by Crafty College and the Bluebonnet Crafters. There are over 60 free angel crafts and we often add new ones.

See you in the New Year, Decade, Century, and Millennium!

Sincerely,

  
*Laurieann*<sup>TM</sup>

[laurieann@ivisions.com](mailto:laurieann@ivisions.com)

PS

If you want a condensed copy of this newsletter e-mailed to you, send a request to [cvndec99@wvvisions.com](mailto:cvndec99@wvvisions.com).

And, if you have not subscribed to this newsletter, please fill out our on-line subscribe [form](#) as well as check out past issues of The [Crafty Visions Newsletter](#).



## Seasonal Crafts

by *Bluebonnet Crafters*

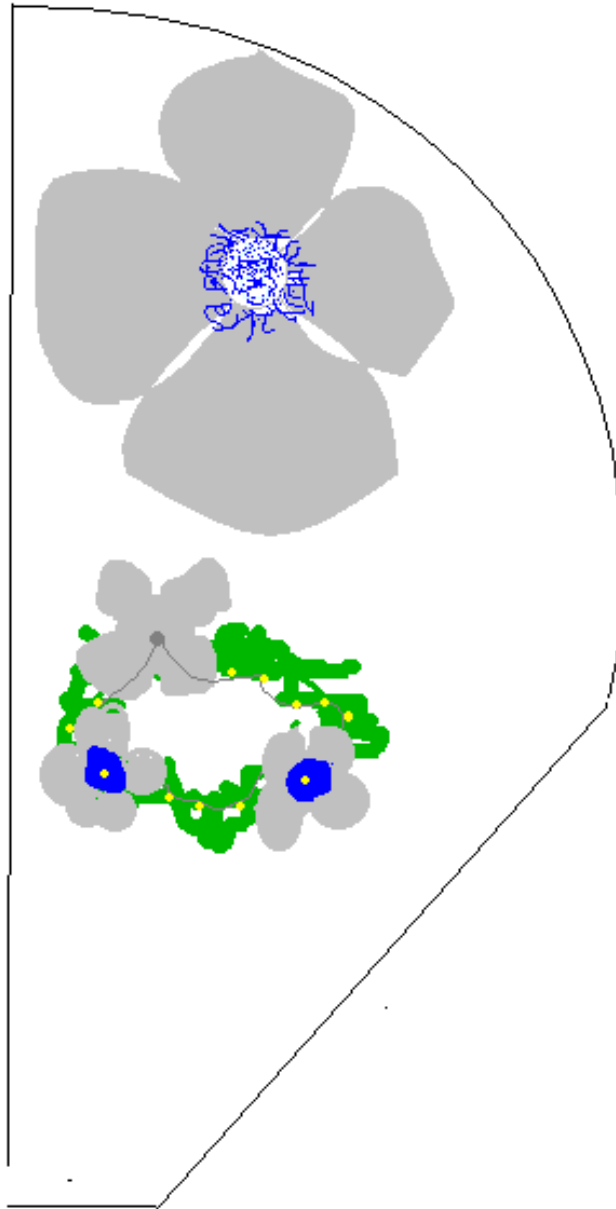
### New Year's Celebration Centerpiece



#### Materials:

- 3 Flora- lite globes
- String of clear mini Christmas lights
- Royal blue metallic curling ribbon
- 3 sheets of silver tissue paper
- Iridescent shreds
- Artificial or real greenery
- Clear glass plate
- Odd number of different glasses for candle holders
- Votive candle for each glass
- Scissors
- Wire

- **Floral Tape**
- **Options:** You can use pillar and taper candles mixed with the glasses for added interest.



## Instructions:

Having picked the colors for your particular celebration the candles and the tissue flowers can be made to coordinate or contrast with each other in colors of your choice. If using different styles of glasses to hold your votive candles these can be clear or in the color to blend with your other decorations.

Cut and curl 3 lengths of the blue curling ribbon and insert into the Flora-lite globe. Add a small amount of the iridescent shred as well. Fold your tissue paper in half and cut in the petal shape. \*\*\*The diagram will need to be enlarged to twice the size shown.

Arrange four petals around each Flora-lite globe. Wire in place and cover with floral tape. Arrange the greenery on a large clear glass plate. Place the string of lights in and among the greenery forming a ring around the outside of the plate. In the center of the plate arrange glasses, different sizes, heights and shapes, each containing a votive candle.

Place your Flora-lite globes equally around the greenery ring connecting a light in each globe.

**Option:** If you do not wish to use the Christmas lights and Flora-lite globes substitute a royal blue glass Christmas tree ball ornament.



## "Y2K Emergency Kit" Party Favor

### Materials:

- 1 Highsmith's\*\* corrugated Party Favor box for each
- Crystal shred
- Silver and blue metallic tissue
- Star garland (Silver)
- Silver marker
- Candy bar with new labels
- Votive candle
- Book of matches
- Bottle of champagne bubbles
- Option: Pocket or pen type flashlight with batteries or Gold wrapped chocolate coins

### Instructions:

With your silver marker draw curly Q's and stars in different shapes on the outside of each box. Write either on the box itself or on a tag attached to the star garland "Y2K Survival Kit. You may also personalize with the guests' name.

Cut a piece of tissue 8" X 8" and insert in the box with the points extended above the box edges. Add a small amount of the iridescent shred and fill each box with a combination of the items listed above. Cut a 12" length of the star garland and twist around the handle allowing one end to coil down in front of the box and the other coiled above the box.

Print out a label for the candy bar that says "Y2K Emergency Rations". Wrap around the individual candy bars and tape or tie in place with a short piece of curling ribbon.

Put one at each place setting or arrange on a table for guests to collect as they leave.

\*\*Highsmith Corrugated products are available through your local craft or party store or call 1-800-554-4661. If not yet available locally share the phone number for next time you need them.



## Crafty Tips

by Bluebonnet Crafters

- # 1. Use light bulb for touch up ironing on ribbons, doll clothes and other small items.
- # 2. When bringing "Naturals" into the house for decoration it is a good idea to place in a plastic bag and freeze overnight to get rid of unwanted guests.
- # 3. Store your craft pens and markers flat and be sure the caps are on tight to extend the life of these expensive supplies



### Crafty Visions Classifieds

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#### **New for crafters: Pocket-Size Doll Pin Kits**

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[info@jacquardproducts.com](mailto:info@jacquardproducts.com)

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#### **Hand blown glass icicles and ornaments** by Terry Albright

Icicles:

Tinys (about 2 inches) 20 for \$18.00 (reg. \$20.00)

Smalls (3 to 4 inches) are \$18.00 / doz. (reg. \$20.00)

Large (6 to 7 inches) are \$24.00 /doz. (reg. \$30.00)

Mixed sets (6 sm. & 6 lg.) \$21.00 / doz (reg. \$25.00)

Tiny globes with tiny holes for inserting ribbon...5 for \$15.00  
Plus shipping at actual cost Usually \$3.20 for 1 to 4 dozen inside USA. Contact  
Terry for more information Email: Dyllweed77@aol.com or call 800-484-4951  
(put in code 7893)

Mention Crafty Visions Newsletter for the special price.

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**Free Herb Gardening Newsletter** - *The Country Cottage Herb Gardener* is  
free e-mail newsletter for herb gardeners of all kinds. For more information  
and to sign-up go to: <http://www.limestoneledge.com/FreeCCHGinfo.html>

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**Craft Mailing List** - A craft email list, sponsored by the *Bluebonnet Crafters*,  
where you can ask crafty questions, help us answer others and enjoy sharing  
talk about crafts.

**Sign Up Now!** - <http://bluebonnetvillage.com/happens.htm>

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**Making Handmade Herbal or Flower Paper & Journals** - Learn how to  
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**Handmade Paper** - <http://craftycollege.com/academics/paper.html>

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## Our Featured Artist..... Terry Albright



Terry learned how to make blown glass icicles from her  
parents. Both her parents are glassblowers. Her mother  
learned the technique from a Master glassblower who would  
show her how to make them "only if she never let it out of  
the family".

Terry began about 8 years ago and now makes her icicles year  
round. (Some of her relatives \*expect\* them every year!)



Terry started doing SRE about 5 years ago when she made a ring-bearer's pillow for her sister's wedding. She entered the pillow in a magazine design contest at RibbonWorks, and won second place. Terry has been designing SRE projects ever since.

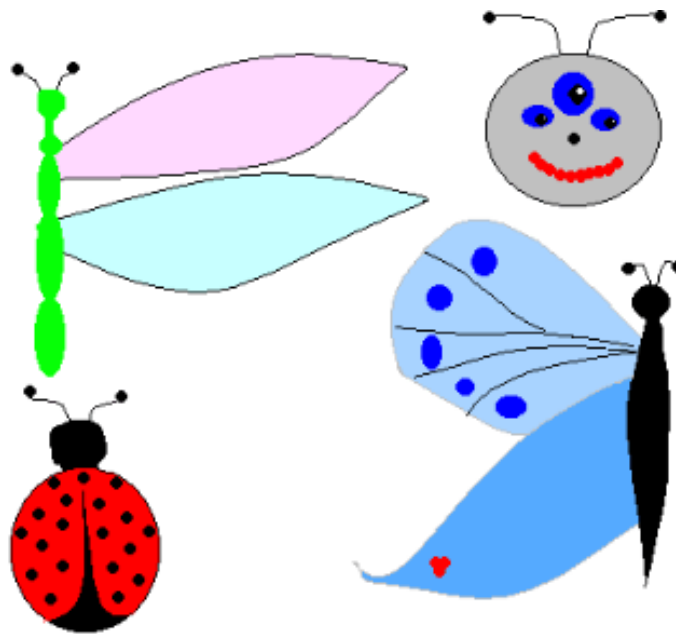
This is the first year Terry has combined her icicles with SRE in some ornaments she designed. Terry says "They really sparkle on my tree, and they sound like tiny wind chimes when they tap against each other if they are moved."

These beautiful icicles come in different sizes and she also makes a matched set for pierced earrings. You can contact Terry for more information by phone or email. She does not yet have a website. Email: Terry at [Dyllweed77@aol.com](mailto:Dyllweed77@aol.com) or call 800-484-4951 (then put in code 7893)



**Crafty Kids.....**

**Millennium or Y2K Bugs**



## Materials:

- Pom pom
- Chenille stem
- Clear plastic from soda bottles
- Craft glue
- Wiggle eyes
- Pin back or hanger cord
- Glitter
- Permanent marker
- Option: trims, embellishments and accessories

## Instructions:

If you make a pretty bug, butterfly or dragon fly it is a Millennium bug but if you want to make an ugly, scary, funny one then you have made a Y2K Bug.

Use your imagination to build your own bug. The chenille stem can be used as legs or antennae. Pom poms in different sizes can be used for the head or the body. The plastic in drink bottles can be used to make wings.

Draw different shapes on your cut out wings with the glue and sprinkle with colored glitter and allow them to dry. Glue the head to the bodies, the antennae to the head and the legs on the bodies. We have a few samples shown. Use them as a guide but have fun and invent your own Millennium or Y2K bug.

Option: Using trims, embellishments and accessories you can dress and decorate your bugs.

## Craft Foam Snowflakes

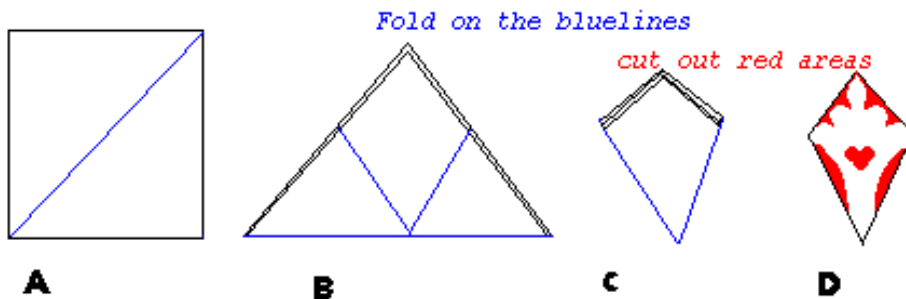


## Materials:

- A sheet of craft foam (such as Fun Foam)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- White craft glue
- Glitter
- Piece of paper
- Toothpick
- Waxed paper or paper plate

## Instructions:

Cut the paper into a square. Fold the square diagonally placing the two points together. Fold one third toward the center so the points meet at the top open edge of the paper. Fold the last third over the other two points so you have formed a diamond shape. With your scissors carefully cut the design along the two folded edges and across the open top point. Be sure not to cut through the bottom point and the side points. You will need these areas touching to hold your snowflake together.



Using the diagram as your guide fold on the blue lines and cut out the red areas.

If you have craft punches that punch out different designs make several punches in the center area between the two rows of cut outs. Carefully open the paper pattern and place it on the craft foam. Hold in place with double stick tape or pins while you trace the pattern onto the foam.

Remove the pattern and use your scissors to cut out the snowflake. With the toothpick go around all the edges with craft glue, including the edge of all the cut outs you made in the center. Over a paper plate sprinkle the glitter liberally into the craft glue and allow to dry. When dry lift your snowflake and shake the excess glitter back into the paper plate.

On a second piece of waxed paper or paper plate, place the glitter side of the snowflake down and repeat the glue glitter process using the leftover glitter from the first side.

Option: You can use a spray adhesive and sprinkle glitter over the entire snowflake, allow to dry, turn over and repeat.



## Kitchen Crafts.....

### Pot de Creme au Chocolate

#### Ingredients

- 1/4 lb. German sweet chocolate
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 cup cream
- 2 egg yolks, lightly beaten
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- Prepared whipped cream

#### Directions

Combine chocolate, sugar and cream in a saucepan. Heat over medium heat stirring constantly until the chocolate is melted and the mixture is well blended. Remove from the heat. Slowly pour into the egg yolks stirring constantly. Blend in vanilla and pour into fancy individual dessert glasses, add a dollop of whipped cream and decorate with the shooting star place cards.

#### Star Place card

#### Material:

- Shrink- It Plastic, clear or opaque
- Black permanent marker

- Sandpaper
- Crayons, colored pencils or markers
- Scissors
- Oven or toaster type oven
- Baby powder
- Baking board or cookie sheet lined with parchment paper
- Option: Any clear plastic or acetate



## Instructions:

The pattern given is for the Shrink-It Plastic so will shrink approximately 60 percent. The project can be made by reducing the size of the pattern to its finished size and tracing it on any clear non-shrink plastic.

Lightly sand one side of your plastic. Trace the pattern with the permanent marker. Color with pencils, crayons or markers in colors of your choice. On the opposite side of the sanding and coloring write the guests name or your New Year message.

Cut out each place card. Place it on the baking board or parchment lined cookie sheet (a little baby powder will help prevent sticking). Preheat the oven to 275 to 300 degrees for opaque and 250 degrees for the clear. Place in the oven and bake until the Shrink-It is completely flat.

Decorate each dessert glass with a place card. Arrange in a group for a buffet and put one at each place setting for a sit down meal.



## Winter Craft

# Felt Snowman Pin

### Materials

- Piece of white felt 6" X 3"
- Piece of Royal blue felt approximately 2" square
- 6" piece of Royal blue ribbon 1/3" wide
- Small piece of white ribbon
- Small amount of fiber fill
- Several star sequins
- 1 large star sequins
- Blue translucent seed beads (one for each sequin)
- 2 tiny 3mm black pompoms or half beads for eyes
- Small piece of red felt for mouth
- 1/4" white pompom for nose
- 3 small blue buttons, stars or pompoms for buttons
- Pin back
- Craft glue and toothpick



### Instructions:

Using the picture as your pattern and guide cut two layers of felt. Machine or hand stitch around the edges leaving a small area open for stuffing. Stuff lightly and close the opening (these steps can be glued instead of sewing if you prefer).

Trace, cut and glue the hat shape in place. Add the white ribbon hat band and decorate with one or three of your star sequins gluing a translucent blue bead in the center of each star sequin to cover the hole.

Glue the eyes, pompom (snowball) nose and red felt mouth in place. Tie the blue ribbon around his neck for a scarf and add a sequin to each end of the ribbon.

From the white scraps cut two arms. Glue or sew as shown. Place the large star sequin in his hands and glue an additional bead in the center to cover the hole in the sequin.

Add the buttons to the front and the pin back to the back and this friendly little snowman is ready to travel on your lapel.



## Announcements

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1999

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**Herb Gardening  
Bulletin Board**

<http://wwvisions.com/craftbb/herbs.html>



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○ **Bluebonnet Crafters**

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**URL:** <http://www.BluebonnetVillage.com>

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Please contact us with your questions, suggests, or submissions!

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