BONNET

FROM PAGE C4

Lillian Malley, vice president of the Redford Suburban League, wore a wide-brimmed red straw to the luncheon.

She has a collection of 23 hats.

"I love the wide brims. I particularly like matching hats with complete outfits. To me, the hat is the frosting on the cake," she said.

HATS, HATS, HATS

The women attending the event wore hats that showed off a variety of attitudes – saucy, jaunty, fun and downright glamorous.

"Hats express an attitude. I think over the years it was a way for women to express themselves," said Betsy McRae of Redford, deputy clerk of Redford Township.

Lillian Papich of Farmington Hills wore a blue felt with a big red rose pinned boldly in front. She bought it from Jacobson's 20 years ago and once loaned it to her friend, Carole Rhode, who needed just the right hat for a play in which she was appearing. "She was Miss Megabucks," said Papich.

"I had a royal blue dress and Lillian said, 'I have just the hat for you,'" said Rhode, who used to work for the Redford Chamber of Commerce.

Joyce Hamer, a league member from Waterford, also is a member of the Red Hat Society, a organization of fun-loving women somewhere between their prime and their golden years who "dare to wear purple and spit on the sidewalk."

"There's thousands and thousands of women in it," she said. "It's strictly a fun group, no fund-raisers, just fun."

Hamer, of course, was wearing a red hat and a purple suit. The hat, she said, "symbolizes that I'm going out to have fun with a bunch of friends."

A HAT IN THE CROWD

Mary Sidlek of Canton was the only women attending 11 a.m. Mass at St. John Neumann Church last Easter who wore a hat. People who know her didn't find it surprising. "I'm kind of known as the lady with hats," she said. Even her husband gets in the act. "He has every color of beret under the sun."

Will Sidlek wear a signature hat this Easter? "Oh of course, come rain or come shine."

Eleanor Smith of Livonia has worn an Easter bonnet since she was a child. Today, parishioners at St. Priscilla Church count on her wearing a hat on Easter Sunday. She fondly remembers a lavender, oval-brimmed hat she wore in the late 1950s with a turquoise and lavender plaid coat with three-quarter-length sleeves she made. Of course, she wore the requisite white gloves.

Smith continues to prefer wide-brimmed hats.

"I just think ladies look elegant in them," she said. "They're dressy. They just make people's heads turn when you wear them."

rskoglund@oe.homecomm.net
(734) 953-2128.

LOWE'S Home Improvement Warehouse
Improving Home Improvement
Outdoor Power Equipment Demonstration from 10am to 2pm this SATURDAY!
New!
ZERO LOWE'S Payments and Interest until January 2004!*
If paid in full by January 2004.
On all Cub Cadet® outdoor power equipment purchases of $299 or more made on your Lowe's credit card between now and April 13, 2003. See store for details.
Cub Cadet
Kawasaki Engines
$1998 15 HP 38" Cut Lawn Tractor
•Kawasaki OHV V-Twin engine •Hydrostatic drive transmission with cruise control •Mulch kit included #217447
Powerama
New Exclusive!
FREE! Your Choice with any Troy-Bilt Tractor
Tow Behind Spreader #44-4610
Dump Cart #00918
Set of Ramps #220441
Up to $100 value with purchase of any Troy-Bilt® tractor purchased between now and April 30, 2003
TROY-BILT
$1899 21 HP 46" Cut Lawn Tractor
•OHV Intek engine •Pedal drive transmission with cruise control •Manual PTO •Mulch kit included •16" turning radius #188395
We Service what We Sell!
$499 Husqvarna 6.75 HP, 21" Cut Self-Propelled Mulching Mower with Rear Bag
•Fully baffled lightweight polymer deck #217466
$478 Cub Cadet 6.5 HP 21" Cut Mulching Mower with Rear Bag
•Kawasaki OHV engine •9" Ball Bearing rear wheels, 7" front caster wheels #200501
Kawasaki
$399 TROY-BILT 6.75 HP SmartTouch™ 21" Cut Self-Propelled Mulching Mower with Rear Bag
•Quantum engine •Restart mower with the touch of a button #184997
EZ Link™ Trimmer Plus® System
TROY-BILT
$136 17" Curved Shaft Trimmer
•31 cc 2 cycle engine •Easy start engine •.095 line diameter •SpeedSpool-load new line in seconds without tools •11 lbs. #218183
EZ Link™ TrimmerPlus® Attachments
Quickly convert your Troy-Bilt trimmer into an edger, hedge trimmer, cultivator or blower without tools. Just press a button, twist a knob, insert the attachment, then get right back to work.
$89.97 Add-On Cultivator #91530
$84.38 Add-On Hedge Trimmer #97605
$69.97 Add-On Edger #91517
$52.20 Add-On Blower #96078
Chesterfield 47990 23 Mile Rd. (586) 948-0654 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Warren 31140 Van Dyke (586) 826-7551 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Clinton Twp. 15350 Hall Rd. (586) 416-2534 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Bloomfield 1801 South Telegraph Rd. (248) 338-2566 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Howell 1100 S. Latson (517) 548-3478 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Monroe Frenchtown Twp. 2191 North Telegraph (734) 384-8478 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Westland 6555 Newburgh (734) 729-6629 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Southgate 3/4 Mile S. of Eureka Rd. on Trenton Rd. (734) 284-6843 Monday-Saturday: 8am-10pm Sunday: 8am-6pm
Prices may vary after April 26, 2003 if store or market conditions change. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities.
Zero payments and interest until January 2004. Payments not required until January 2004 on every Cub Cadet® outdoor power equipment purchase of $299 or more charged to your Lowe's Credit Card account from February 5, 2003 through April 13, 2003. Finance charges and optional insurance charges on your promotional purchase will be billed from the date of purchase but interest charges will be permitted if the promotional purchase and any insurance charges are paid in full within the promotional period. If you do not, you will be responsible for these charges. Regular credit terms apply to non-promotional purchases. APR is 21.15%*. As purchases of $2,000 or more may require a charge of $100 to $250 each. Offer subject to credit approval. Exclusive financing available.
©2003 by Lowe's. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, L.L.C. #0303091

EGGS

FROM PAGE C4

THE PROCESS

Measuring the egg, which is first cleaned in white vinegar, and making equally spaced pencil marks so that the repetitive designs are symmetrical is the first step of this Ukrainian craft. With a "kisky," a tool with a minute funnel that contains melted beeswax (it's passed over the flame of a candle to melt), Ewasek draws on the lines and designs she wants to remain white. Then the egg is dipped in yellow dye.

Again, she uses the kisky to cover the areas she wants to remain yellow. This process is repeated over and over again with the next dye color, which is orange, then red and finally black. By the time the complete design is on the egg, much of it is covered with beeswax.

"These are the traditional colors, although any color can be used. In addition to the colors mentioned above, Ukrainian eggs tend to be decorated with certain designs which are symbolic of spring (flowers), good health (wheat), prosperity (deer), being part of the universe (sun, moon and stars), as well as other blessings."

After the egg is decorated, Ewasek "blows out" its contents by making a small hole in one end. She uses an ear syringe to shoot air into the egg to break up the yolk. The contents can then be emptied out of the egg through the hole. To complete and preserve the egg, she removes the beeswax and gives it two coats of varnish.

"Ukrainian women (and this craft has always been primarily a 'woman thing') weren't the first to decorate eggs. This custom is centuries old and predates Christianity. It was the Ukrainians, however, who elevated it to an art."

A PEACEFUL HOBBY

According to Ewasek, creating the eggs has been a relaxing and peaceful hobby. It's these same benefits that draw her to her other interest. She's an avid gardener and likes to take the same creativity she uses to transform eggs to the land.

"But creating eggs is the most challenging activity, especially if I use smaller eggs, such as those from quails, parrots and cockatiels." (She has a friend who raises birds and gives her the unfertilized eggs.)

Ewasek's daughters, Andrea, 13, and Laurie, 10, are also egg artists. Under their mother's guidance, they began decorating eggs when they were about 5 years old. "I made them wait until I was sure that they wouldn't set their hair on fire with the candle," she said.

Her passion for decorated eggs has taken her to "egg shows" for supplies, demonstrations and the opportunity to learn more about the designs and history of this art form. She also likes meeting other "egg ladies" and sharing ideas with them and selling her eggs.

"We have a wonderful Egg Fair, held every year in Dearborn. Ukrainian eggs, as well as Polish 'scratch' (the design is not put on, but scratched off), Faberge and Czech eggs are on display and available for purchase," she added.

This year's Egg Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 3, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at Holiday Inn Fairlane. For information call (586) 779-1938.

Visit the Observer online at www.hometownlife.com