



The Hedgehog Welfare Society

Newsletter #48 July/August 2010

To protect the well-being of pet hedgehogs through rescue, research and education of the people who care for them.

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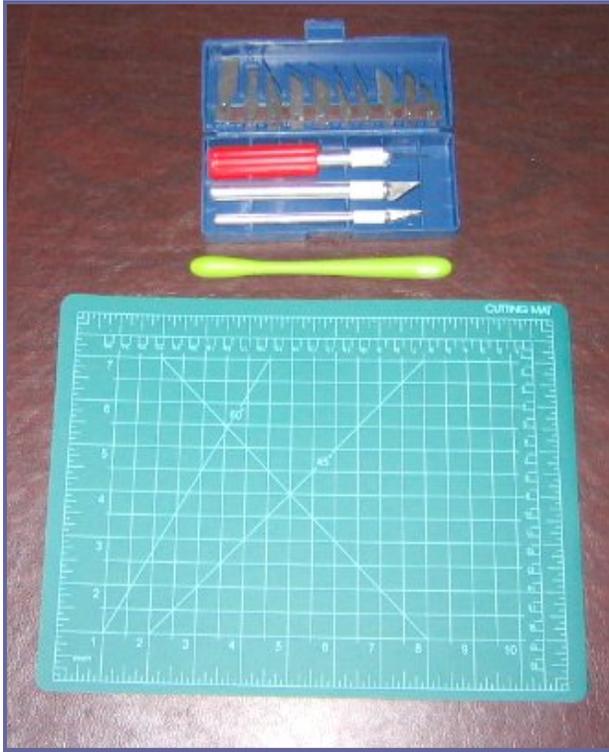
Designed by Cynthia Ferguson. Used with Permission.

Cynthia Ferguson and the Art of Scherenschnitte

Cut paper design is an art form practiced in many countries but its origins can be traced back to China where paper was invented. Chinese artists cut designs which were used for screens, window coverings, and even embroidery patterns. Distinct styles of paper cutting developed among the folk arts of Jewish, Polish, Dutch, Chinese, Mexican, Japanese, German and Swiss cultures. The German word for this form is Scherenschnitte (pronounced Sharon-sh-net). The word actually means "scissor cuts." Traditionally used to decorate marriage and birth certificates, it is also used to create silhouettes and valentines.

The creator of the beautiful cut paper hedgehog shown here is Cynthia Ferguson who has been a graphic designer for several years and has been working with cut paper designs since 2006. She encountered her first examples of Scherenschnitte at the Mozart birthplace museum in Salzburg, Germany. She bought two pieces with the idea of cutting her own designs at some point in the future. Later, during the same trip, she arrived at her grandmother's home in the small town of Hermutshausen in southern Germany where she found a small antique paper cut

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Scherenschnitte Tools

Continued from page 1

tacked to the sitting room wall. It was much more intricate than the pieces she had just purchased at the museum gift shop!

Since then she has developed into an excellent Scherenschnitte artist. Folklore and fairytales are often sources of inspiration for her work. One of the largest pieces she has created features a scene from the Hans Christian Andersen fairytale, The Snow Queen. It is ten feet wide and three feet tall. But perhaps her most ambitious and unusual project was a series of eight large paper cuts portraying historical events involving the Tower of London. One paper cut was a menagerie scene documenting the animals that were in the Tower's zoo from the 1400s to the 1800s. Another was a scene depicting the beheading of Anne Boleyn! Cynthia spent a month in England creating the series which was displayed in the Tower's Children's Education Room in 2009.

Cynthia's work is featured in a new book by Taylor Hagerty called Paper Cuts: 35 Inventive Projects (Lark Books, ISBN 978-1-60059-512-7). You can also see examples of her creations on her web sites cindyferguson.com and cindymindypindy.etsy.com, as well as on her blog cindymindypindy.blogspot.com. A short Facebook video of Cindy presenting a paper cut demonstration is available at <http://www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=538193409255>.

Cynthia Ferguson has a degree in design from Brigham Young University. She currently lives in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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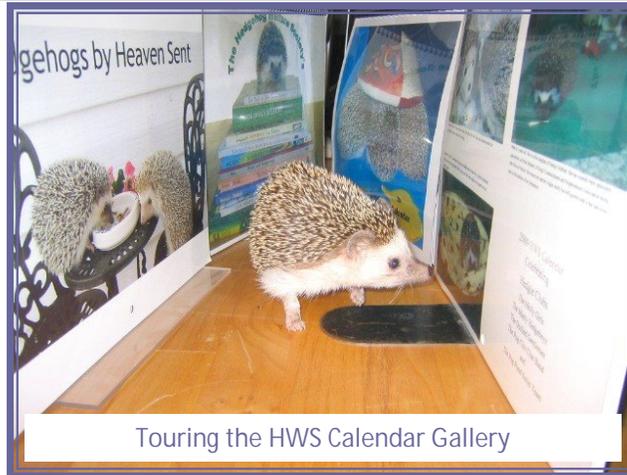
Landers, Jeri. "Scherenschnitte." 2000. Web. 22 May 2010. <<http://www.hopalonggreetings.com/>>

ARTISTS WANTED



Would you like to help illustrate the Newsletter? We are always looking For drawings, photographs and art Work to include here.

Send your submissions in JPEG Format to:
newsletter@hedgehogwelfare.org



Touring the HWS Calendar Gallery

2011 Calendar to Feature Tumbleweeds

It's that time again! This year's theme for the calendar is "Texas Tumbleweeds"! Please send your high-quality jpeg photos to me no later than August 30 for consideration. Include a brief paragraph about your Tumbleweed and of course, your name and theirs.

Submission should be sent to: hedge.calendar@gmail.com

Ok, now, get those cameras to clicking!

Botanical Hedgehogs



Pasque Flower



Echinops bannaticus globe



Dandelion



Anonymous burrs near a pond

Midwest Rendezvous Hedgehog Show Conformation Results
 May 1, 2010 - - Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 Floyd Aprill, judge

Submitted by Deb Weaver

1st through 3rd awarded (all animals entered are listed below)

JUVENILE MALE

Standard

Hawkeye (Kay Malmquist) – 1st

Albino

No entries

Apricot

No entries

White

No entries

Snowflake

No entries

Pinto

Snowberry (Tiffany Clark)

Mocha (Barb Milone)

Coca (Barb Milone)

Samson (Lois Reetz) – 2nd

Gromit (Linda Woodring) – 1st

Squishie (Lora Silvernail) – 3rd

Juvenile Male Grand Champion/Reserve Grand Champion

Gromit – Grand Champion

Hawkeye – Reserve Grand Champion

ADULT MALE

Standard

No entries

Albino

Kenmore (Linda Woodring) – 1st

Apricot

No entries

White

No entries



Gromit Woodring shows off his ribbons.

Snowflake

Rockester (Sheila Dempsey) – 1st

Col. Potter (Kay Malmquist) – 2nd

Pinto

Baxter (Linda Woodring) – 3rd

Snowy (Kathy Guzikowski) – 2nd

Pina (Greg Gofdeck) – 1st

Adult Male Grand Champion/Reserve Grand Champion

Kenmore

Rochester – Grand champion

Pina – Reserve grand champion

JUVENILE FEMALE

Standard

No entries

Albino

No entries

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Carved wood hedgehog trio

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Midwest Rendezvous Hedgehog Show

Apricot

No entries

White

Fiona (Kristen Bongard) – 1st

Snowflake

S'Bella (Charity Tutt) – 1st

Pinto

Millie (Deb Weaver) – 2nd

Tickles (Kate Scher) – 3rd

Celexa (Kristen Bongard) – 1st

Juvenile Female Grand Champion/Reserve Grand Champion

Fiona – Reserve grand champion

S'Bella

Celexa – Grand champion

ADULT FEMALE

Standard

Miss Pickles (Jennifer Hack) – 2nd

Juniper (Lois Reetz) – 1st

Albino

Harriet (Kristen Bongard) – 2nd

Star (Sheila Dempsey) – 1st

Apricot

No entries

White

No entries

Snowflake

No entries

Pinto

Samantha (Deb Weaver) – 2nd

Lucy (Kathy Guzikowski) – 1st

Adult Female Grand Champion/Reserve Grand Champion

Juniper – Grand champion

Star – Reserve grand champion

Lucy

Best of Show

Gromit – Best of Show

Celexa

Rochester – Reserve Best of Show

Juniper

WRITERS WANTED



Would you like to write for the Newsletter? We are always Looking for stories, poems, craft Projects, recipes, puzzles, and Articles to include here.

Send your submissions or article Proposals to:
newsletter@hedgehogwelfare.org



We Remember Suzy Barker

By Elaine Becker

I met Suzy through the HWS chat group. She didn't post very often but she had a hedgeie, named Quentin, who was a biter (Momo's littermate). That's the real name of my hubby and Q-ball. Then I found out Suzy lived a couple hours north of me. After her Quentin passed, I asked if she would be interested in a rescue hedgeie in Houston.

The first time we met, I was helping transport a rescue hedgeie (Felix) from Houston and met her partway between Houston and the town where she lived. Suzy later adopted another hedgeie (Lancelot), then another (Blondie) from Houston rescues. Those 3 hedgeies came back to Houston after Suzy passed away. Both boys have now found great forever home. Blondie is living in a colony of females at Gina's rescue and enjoying the company.

Last November Suzy was at the Dallas Hedgehog Show in the room right next to mine. She had the time of her life, meeting others she had known only online and seeing all the little quilled kids. She had playpens and treats and blankies galore in her room for her babies. While I knew she worked in a hospital, we mostly talked about our shared passion for our quill kids. I learned far more about the other aspects of her life by reading her obituary and talking to her daughter. I'd like to share those other parts with the group:

From her obituary:

Mrs. Barker was born August 24, 1948 in San Antonio, Texas to the late Esther (Jones) and Winford Schuller, Sr., and died Saturday, April 3, 2010 in a Nacogdoches hospital, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Mrs. Barker was a 1967 graduate of Central High School. She was a Certified Respiratory Therapist at Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital and was dedicated to continuing her education in respiratory therapy and healthcare. She was also a Certified Massage Therapist. Prior to obtaining her CRT, Mrs. Barker was a drafting engineer with Lufkin Industries for 17 years. Mrs. Barker was a member of the Angelina Mounted Patrol "Quad Drill" and the Order of the Eastern Star Lufkin Chapter. She attended the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Nacogdoches. Mrs. Barker was an avid participant in Pet Rescue. Survivors include her husband, Doyle Barker of Lufkin; daughters and sons-in-law, Shelley and Bryan Fraley and Angie and John Beauchamp, all of Lufkin; grandsons, Jared Nedbalek, Zack Brasher, Karsen Beauchamp and Kyle Beauchamp, all of Lufkin, and Trevor Fraley of Alabama; granddaughter, Melaina Fraley of Alabama; brother and sister-in-law, Butch and Susan Schuller of Lufkin; sisters, Maureen Chepren and Marcia Crawford, both of Florida; and a number of nieces, nephews and other relatives. The family extends special thanks to the staff of Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital and particularly her extended family "The Cardiopulmonary Team."¹

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From her daughter Angie Beauchamp:

Just a little note to tell you about that special person in my life....

Suzy was a wonderful grandmother whether it was a trip to the zoo, reading books, late night care for one of my boys when they were sick or just having the patience to sit on the couch and play games with them. She and my youngest boy Karsen (5) had their Sunday routine of playing Farmville games and eating popcorn. She always made sure that she had popcorn for Karsen. In fact she would just leave a box in her car because even if it was not a Sunday, she was at my house after work several days during the week and that was one of the things that Karsen would always ask. "Gan Gan did you bring us some popcorn"? Mom was an advocate with Pet Rescue whether it was her hedgies or any other small animals. I never knew what new critter she was going to have when I went over to her house. Mother was always furthering her knowledge in her career and in her animals. Heck, I think she could have even become a vet due to the hours she spent researching the care for hedgies and other animals. She really cared for most animals and spent lots of time and money caring for them....kind of put us kids (my sister and me) on the back burner when it came to her animals (just joking). There is so much I could tell you about her but it would take days and days. You guys got to see the side of her care for animals. From my stand point she was an awesome grandmother. She is so missed by me and my family. A person never realizes how fast something can be taken away from you.

From her Case Manager:

When her hedgies were picked up by Rebecca after her passing, her husband was relieved to find people able to take care of them. He was very helpful in having their things ready to go with them, to help them with their transition. Rebecca (Houston rescue), "I can definitely say that Suzy spoiled her babies rotten. She had so much stuff to enrich their lives that I couldn't fit it all in my car. I thought I was going to have to strap their wading pool playpen to the roof! And I don't think any human baby in the world has ever had that many blankies." :)

From Gina at Houston rescue:

Suzy was soft-hearted for any hard luck hedgie. She adopted 2 hard to place boys from me. Both were sweet little angels when they came back here.

From Gina (vet tech at Suzy's vet):

Suzy was always a bright spot in any day we saw her. Always smiling and taking such great care of her babies.

RIP SUZY BARKER AND MOMO

From Kim M.:

Suzy was sweet and kind, and very willing to help if there was a problem. She made me feel welcome at the show. I didn't know her well as we had only met at the show.

Nancy:

I am so sad to hear about Suzy. She was such a nice and kind person. She has bought bedding from me for years and we have chatted back and forth on occasion. When I was diagnosed with breast cancer she sent me a great book written by a breast cancer survivor. She will be greatly missed.

Gioia

How sad...The Herd and I will send our best thoughts out to Suzy, Momo and family. Such a loss for us all.

Jennifer P:

Oh, how dreadful! I will add Suzy and Momo and her family to the list for the Circle of Light Ceremony, which will be on the 14th. How very, very sad, I'm just so sad for her family and friends and pets

Christina P.:

Oh, how terrible! Her husband, family, animals, and friends are in my prayers.

Kay:

What a tragic loss.

Beth:

Such a tragic loss. May she and Momo indeed rest in peace. She was a special lady and she will be missed. Her family and friends will be in my thoughts and prayers. Please let us know how her little quilled ones fare.

Margaret C:

How very tragic! I will keep her husband and family

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and her little ones in my thoughts and prayers. Thank you for letting us know, Elaine. God speed Suzy and Momo!

Jan:

Oh, how awful. Yes, please send the address of Suzy's family so I can send a card. Hedgegie love.

From Donnasue:

To me, Suzy was one of those quiet heroes. She was always supportive of our hedgehog rescue group but she never made a big deal about it. Quiet. Humble. And, she was an awesome Farmville game neighbor! I was sad yesterday (4/11) when I went to fertilize my neighbor's crops and noticed Suzy's farm-- meticulously put together but now unattended. Sigh.

Many people from HWS asked for the family's address to send cards. This included many people who had never met her. This is a wonderful group that is very caring. It's nice to know that if anything should happen to any of us, the others would make sure that our babies were cared for and that our families felt the love of the group.

¹ "Obituary: Suzy Schuller Barker." Lufkin Daily News. Legacy.com, 2010. Web. 16 June 2010. <<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/lufkindailynews/obituary.aspx?n=suzy-schuller-barker&pid=141590860>>.



<http://vintageholidaycrafts.com/>

Changes in the Rescue Committee

By Sheila Dempsey

Cyndy Bennett, who was a marvelous co-chair and hedgegie rescuer has decided to retire from the position to better manage her time taking care of her mom, in particular. I think everyone can understand that decision and give her a pat on the back for doing it.

Because we are busier than ever since the Texas Tumbleweed project, the Board of the HWS has decided to have three rescue co-chairs. I will remain in my position. Elizabeth Hatch Reichert of Das Hedgegie Haus will take on one position and Charity Tutt of Hope's Hedgegie Haven will take on the other position. I thought it would be a good idea to interview them so you have some familiarity with them.



Winceston's first picture

Elizabeth Hatch Reichert (also known as Beth)

How and when did you get your first hedgehog?

I was online one day and came across a picture of three tiny balls of quills in a hand. My hubby says I sucked all the oxygen out of the room and asked "What are these?" He laughed and said "Hedgehogs!" My next words were "I want one!" Thus it began... I spent a lot of time researching so that when about two months later while shopping at a pet store and that same hubby nudged me and said "Hedgehogs!" I felt I was ready and Winceston came home. I was told he was 12 weeks old which means

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Beth and Winceston

he would have been born right about the same time I saw that picture...

What made you want to do Rescue?

Although I was told Winceston was 12 weeks old, he had no teefs, and weighed 82 grams. He was probably 4-5 weeks old. He couldn't eat kibble, knew not what a mealworm was and couldn't drink from a water bottle so he was really mal-nourished and dehydrated. I almost lost him. If not for the support of the online hedgehog community, I probably would have. He was in a sense my first rescue, and he opened my heart to want to help other hedgehogs. He is the inspiration for Das Hedgie Haus Hedgehog Rescue.

What do you do for a living?

I am the Accounting & Human Resources Supervisor for an aerospace company.

Tell us something great about where you live:

Hmmm. Florida. We have world famous theme parks and beaches, tropical summers and balmy winters. There is the occasional hurricane, or two or three, and some flooding, and I do miss the majestic beauty of the southwest where I am from, but other than that, I am quite happy to be here.

Tell us a little bit about your family:

My husband Wayne is my soul mate, and my partner in rescue. In addition to the quilled, we also rescue the furred, the feathered, and the scaled. My son Michael, his wife Misty and their son Killion live in Texas. My daughter Amanda and her son Trace live both in Florida and in Texas. My daughter Jennifer, her husband Jeff and their son Gage will be in Japan for the next three years.

What is your favorite rescue story?

Last December I had the opportunity to fly up to spend a weekend in New York where Wayne is from and where he was working. He gave me a whirl-wind tour of the city and the sites, fed me New York pizza, a bagel and a hot dog from a vendor in Manhattan and then took me to pick up a hedgehog. An HWS member had taken the hedgehog in and had been looking for a forever home for him (because hedgehogs are illegal in the boroughs, I omit her name). As no one was stepping up to give him that home, I had made arrangements with her before I left Florida for him to come live with us. I flew back and Wayne drove back with Henry, an older 'bino boy who is now known as Hauppauge. On his way, Wayne also stopped at Rescue Committee Co-Chair Sheila Dempsey's house and picked up a huffy little hedgehog named Buddy who is now known as Cahkepen. One trip, two hedgehogs, three days and four people. High five!

What are you looking forward to the most about being appointed Rescue Committee Co-chair?

Helping hedgehogs and helping others help hedgehogs...

Is there anything else we should know about you?

What else is there? I love my family and I love my friends. I love to read and write, and I love heavy metal music. I love muscle cars. I love life.



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Charity Tutt

How & when did you get your first hedgehog?

I don't remember....ask Sheila when. How: I saw an ad on Craigslist for a hedge. I had never even heard of a hedgehog as a pet, so I did some research. The thing that initially appealed to me was the fact that they don't smell like a ferret or guinea pig. So, I contacted the HWS about adopting a rescue hedge and eventually adopted Micah from Sheila.

What made you want to do rescue?

I like seeing the happiness that I get to bring to other people by helping them discover how wonderful these little guys are.

What do you do for a living?

Active duty Navy. I've been in for 16 years and hope to stay in and retire after 18 or 20 years of service.

Tell us something great about where you live:

I live on 2 1/2 acres in the boonies of Texas, just North of Houston. Everyone there has animals, of all kinds. I still know my neighbors by their first names and we still look out for each other! I love it! (Currently stationed in Virginia).

Tell us something about your family:

I'm single, but I have three miniature pinchers, a senegal parrot, and of course, varying numbers of hedges. My father was in the Navy during Vietnam, but has been a prison guard for the last 25 years. My mom drives a school bus. I have two younger brothers, one of whom also completed 4 years in the Navy.

What is your favorite rescue story?

Probably the trip to go get the T'Weeds from

Texas. Although the reason we needed to go is sad, and the trip there was nerve-wracking, all the happy endings that have come since make it worth while.



Welcome New Rescue Contacts By Sheila Dempsey

Since December 2009, the following hedge lovers have opened their hearts and homes to become official Rescue Contacts with the HWS.

Kim Miller -- Tacoma, Washington

Laurie Ann Johson -- St. Cloud, Florida

Jillian Chase -- Romeo, Michigan (Greta's Haven Animal Rescue)

Kari Howard -- Richardson, Texas

Amy Hood -- Starke, Florida

Candace Beach -- Panama City Beach, Florida

Lori Strong -- Huber Heights, Ohio

Stephanie Baldwin -- Bend, Oregon

Audrey Fraser -- Tallahassee, Florida

Lorri Yamamura -- Niagara Falls, New York

Dr. Valerie Holt, DVM -- Moapa, Nevada

Mary Harrington -- Bryan, Ohio

Lisa Kennicut -- Overton, Nebraska

Lauren Streck -- Arlington, Texas

The Rescue Committee and the whole HWS Board would like to thank them for stepping forward in the community's time of need and helping with the Tumbleweeds and any others that need rescuing and rehoming.

Thoughts from the CVO

By Deb Weaver

Ahhh, summer time and the living is easy. You've got to love the slower pace that the summer months typically bring.

A couple of things have crossed my mind lately, going on vacation (one of my favorite things) and the hotter weather (not one of my favorite things).

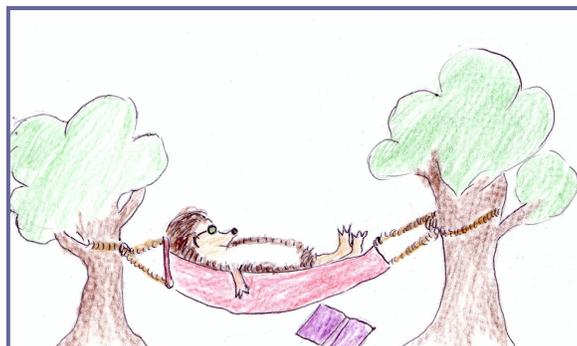
I'm soon taking a trip to the tip of the "thumb" here in Wisconsin, Door County, one of my favorite places to hang out. The girls aren't traveling with me but, instead, going to a friend's house for the week. I have already started to gather their things (tents, liners, blankies, food, toys, dishes, etc.). I will also pack along my first aid kit and feeding syringes and food (in case of a hunger strike). I also plan to leave written documentation with the sitter on each girl's daily routine --so she will know what's normal and what's not.

Something else I do is to notify my vet, first with a call, then with a fax, giving permission for my caretaker to bring my girls in for treatment. I also give my caretaker a copy of this document, along with a credit card (I also document in the fax that the caretaker will have this card and has my permission to sign on it).

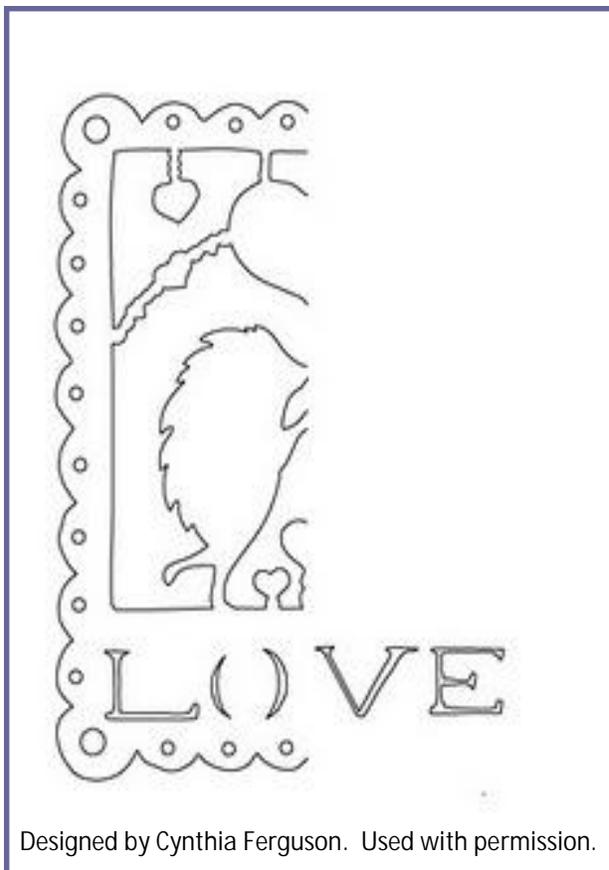
Something else we need to turn our attention to in the summer months is the hotter weather and what measures we may need to take to make sure our hedgies are comfortable. We've already had a couple of days here with heat indexes in the mid-90s (very warm for Milwaukee--we typically get only seven or eight 90 degree days a year). My girls and I don't live with air conditioning. I dragged in from work one day and went right away to check on them. I was hot, sticky, sweaty, and cranky. Both girls were dug under all four layers of fleeces blankets in their condos and snoozing away happily. Suffice to say, my heat tolerance and theirs are different!

We need to remember to provide cooling for our hedgies. A fan to move air can help keep things comfortable. If you live with AC, perhaps you should consider closing the register closest to the hedgehogs--or continue to provide fleeces blankies throughout the summer--so they don't get too cold. Make sure the cages are not in the path of sunlight coming through a window. For cage cooling, many use terracotta pots as an alternative place to nap--or place small ceramic tiles or marble slabs in the cages. I freeze plastic bottles of water, then drop them into a sweat sock and place them near where the girls sleep. A few years ago, during an unbearable stretch of heat here, I moved the girls to a child's play pen. They did fine with all their things in there with them, and the mesh sides provided wonderful air circulation.

Whatever your summer plans are, I hope that they include some time for family and fun--as well as some time for yourself.



Cindy Ferguson's Scherenschnitte Hedgehog Template



Designed by Cynthia Ferguson. Used with permission.

This is a mirror image cut, so after you print it out, fold your paper in half and cut the top part out. Don't cut the letters out while it's folded or you will get something terribly wrong. After you've cut out the top, THEN unfold it and cut out the letters.

How to Papercut

By Cindy Ferguson

Paper:

You can pretty much use any kind of paper in paper cutting. The thicker it is, the less fine the details you are going to be able to achieve. I like to use origami paper because it's a stronger paper but it is also thin enough to get really fine details. Plus it's white on the back so you can easily draw your design on it.

Materials:

Some people like to use small scissors to cut out their designs. Embroidery scissors are nice because they have a nice sharp tip to get you into small places. I like to use a

plain old exacto blade. They are easy to find, the blades are easy to get and you can get all sorts of comfortable handles.

Tricks of the Trade

For those of you who are a little unsure of your drawing skills, feel free to use a template that someone else has provided. If you do use a template, be sure to only use the product for yourself or give it as a gift.

To use a template, print it out, cut near the edge and tape it to the paper you wish to use. Then, cut the inside holes out first. If you don't do this, then you lose the security of the template and it will slip and slide all over the place and really you should probably just stop. When you've finished cutting out the inside, cut out the outer edge. Then show it to all your friends when they come over to hang out with you.

Cutting Fine Lines

People always say, "Cindy, how do you cut such fine lines? Does the paper rip?" And I say, "Very carefully and yes." To try to ensure that the paper doesn't rip, try these two tricks: Cut from left to right. This way you can see how thin the line is that you're cutting. If you're left handed, cut from right to left. Secondly, do NOT be afraid to trade out your blade for a new one. Most of my smaller projects I run through three to four blades. If the blade isn't running through your paper smoothly, it's time to chuck it.

Cutting Small Circles

This is a trick I just recently figured out. To cut a small circle by hand without any tools, first, cut one half of it, then, hold onto that half with your finger and then cut out the other half. I found that if I just tried to cut out small circles with just my blade, it would smooch up and become more of an oval or just be ragged. You just don't want that.



Designed by Cynthia Ferguson.
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