

STYLE POINTS *with Perry and Bob Lucas*

In this issue we had the pleasure of serving Hester's menu to a group of friends hosted by Perry and Bob Lucas in their beautiful home at Grandfather Golf and Country Club. Warm and welcoming, their home offers guests views of #2 on the Championship Course.

"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style."

– MAYA ANGELOU



With the help of interior designer Lee Cooney, Perry and Bob have created the perfect outdoor space. Both stylish and comfortable, it's a great place for guests to enjoy cocktails, a fire, and the view.



A beautiful arrangement styles up the bar. Created by local florist Janna Avery, these silk hydrangeas look amazingly real and can be used again with live greenery.



I love flowers in the powder room, and this small arrangement adds just the right touch!



As a special touch for the table, a sprig of rosemary is tucked into kitchen twine tied around the napkins.



▲ Glass pears by artist Scott Summerfield are among many local pieces in the Lucases' home.

◀ Good friend Donna Lawhon whipped up place-card holders by gluing together twigs from Perry's yard.

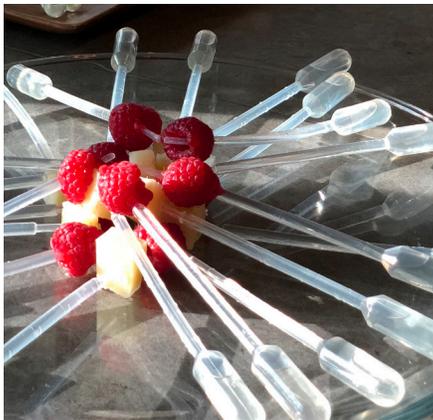


Hester Hodde's Picnic-Preparedness Checklist

Entertaining with a picnic lunch or supper is a snap when you keep a bag ready with all the supplies. Hester's picnic bag is a perfect example from Step Eight: Don't Wait for the Party to Be Ready for the Party.

- Tote Bags – I like the XL L.L. Bean Boat Tote
- Tablecloth or quilt
- Cotton napkins or bandannas
- Bluetooth speaker
- Plastic or metal plates
- Casual metal flatware
- Plastic, ceramic, or metal cups/glasses
- Flashlights or battery-operated lantern – the larger the beam, the better
- Salt & pepper grinders – McCormick's have a handy lid
- Wine opener & bottle opener
- Bug repellent
- Trash bag – for dirty plates and flatware

SOURCES & RESOURCES



Pipettes for Small Bites
Available in packs of 50, 100, or more.
amazon.com



Lemon Curd
Hard to find in groceries, Wilkin & Sons
Lemon Curd is easily found online.



LL Bean Boat Tote
Hester's favorite tote for picnic
provisions. llbean.com

FLEUR DU JOUR *The Blossom Shop*

Once again, Effortless Entertaining has collaborated with *The Blossom Shop*. Serving Charlotte since 1929, *The Blossom Shop* makes intimate dinner parties and large events more special with their beautifully and artfully designed flowers.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT RECIPE

For our summer issue, *The Blossom Shop* designed arrangements especially for our dinner party at the Lucases'. Change the container from wood to ceramic or glass, and it would be perfect anywhere!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Prepare wooden box or other container with floral foam
- Add layers of greenery and flowers

FLOWERS AND FOLIAGE BY STEM

- 3 – Eucalyptus
- 3 – Sword fern
- 2 – Queen Anne's lace
- 4 – Peony, burgundy
- 3 – Dahlia, peach
- 2 – Blue Thistle
- 2 – Antique hydrangea
- 3 – "Chicken foot" bromeliad

SUPPLIES

- Wooden box or other rectangular container
- Floral foam, cut to fit
- Clear floral tape to secure foam in container

*"I must have flowers,
always and always."*
– CLAUDE MONET



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Show & Tell

It has been an exciting and fun-filled spring taking EE on the road! You have graciously welcomed me into your homes and communities and have introduced me to your friends. I've also enjoyed seeing old friends! Inspiring others to gather family and friends in our homes is truly one of my favorite things to do. I am already scheduling for fall and spring and would love to speak to a group in your city!

A special thanks to these friends and groups who invited me to be with them this spring.

- Myers Park Book Club, *Charlotte, NC*
- Southern Home & Kitchen, *Winston-Salem, NC*
- Nourish & Flourish Garden Club, *Charlotte, NC*
- H & S Antiques, *Charlotte, NC*
- Ann Wooten & Rachel Matthews, *Raleigh, NC*
- Cathy Morgan, *Dallas, TX*
- Betsy Liles & Nicki Bryant, *Concord, NC*



Special thanks to Rachel Matthews and her mother Ann Wooten for hosting a gathering of friends in Raleigh. This event was featured in the July 2018 issue of *Hayes Barton Living* magazine. We'll share links to this lovely feature with you via email in *The Dash* next month.



*"It's always been a pleasure
enjoying our home with
friends, but feeling relaxed
about entertaining had
become a lost art for me."*

– ANN WOOTEN

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