

The MTL Gazette

A Free Newsletter For The Friends of: **Memories That Last**

“Sweater, noun: garment worn by child when its mother is feeling chilly.” ~Ambrose Bierce

Top 10 Reasons I Love My Mum - Scrapbook Style!

Finally it's getting chilly so I'm sending a warm welcome to everyone – get yourself that warm cuppa and enjoy our second edition of the Gazette! And a Happy Mother's Day to all our Mums and Grandmas – may you feel honored and deeply loved and appreciated on your special day!

I hope you will indulge me for just a few moments, as I share with you just how much I adore my Mum...

I don't know what I'd do without her. Who else could a 39 year old woman call for sympathy after she accidentally trips over a deceptively flat step and lands like a sack of potatoes straight on her kneecap? I mean, really. Anyone else might have laughed, or made me feel like the clutz I am. But not so with Mum. Even over the phone, I could take comfort in her genuine sympathy and words of comfort.

Growing up my dad was a shiftworker, and so it was almost like Mum was a single parent. But she never complained, and we never once realized how hard it must have been.

Once when I was little, she found some old beaded necklaces. She took these apart and then went on to create this beautiful intricate necklace about 3 layers deep. She had never done this before but it was beautiful.

And now, whenever I doubt myself or my own abilities in any arena, I think about Mum and that necklace, and feel a growing confidence.

If Mum could do it, so can I.

My mum has never made a scrapbook, but loves to knit, sew and cross stitch. She loves to garden – and loves the IDEA of redecorating, but never quite gets any farther than the House & Garden shows on tv.

As a child, I knew she was getting older, when one year, her age officially jumped from 29 to 39.

She hates to shop, but loves hunting down a bargain. Take her to a fabric shop and she is in heaven.

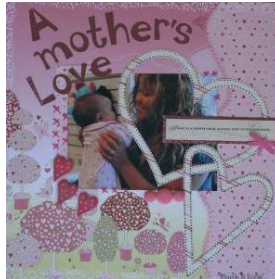
She LOVES the theatre, classical music and Doris Day movies. She loves bowls filled with chicken noodle soup, hates spicy food, and every year for anyone's birthday, she and my dad would cook dinner and bake a chocolate cake.

From my mother, I learned to love craft, and to hate housework.

But even with this whole treasure-trove of knowledge about this woman I love, it's funny how even now, out of nowhere, I still have these flashes in time where I learn something new, and suddenly my whole perspective on her changes.

Just this week, my mum and I were on one of our frequent phone calls, chatting up a storm, when somehow the conversation turned to times long passed. I learned things about my mother as a young woman I'd NEVER known before! Mum described a time after school, when she was busy getting a job, deciding what she wanted to do with her life, and dating a man in uniform with a motorbike! WHO KNEW!

She's always got one more trick up her sleeve, and I wouldn't be the woman I am today without her guiding influence in my life.



And so we come back to Mother's Day. Our chance to honor the women we love and cherish – the one who, for better or for worse, raised us up into the women we have become.

And how do we as self-respecting scrapbookers go about honoring our mothers? Of course. With our words. With our memories. With our layouts!!

One easy project I love, is the mini-album. Sort-of like a glorified, multi-paged greeting card. We have a gorgeous acrylic flower album on display that we have as a class. With all the pieces included, the most time consuming part of the project is literally just choosing the photos.

And even with that, don't kill yourself picking them out. Forget about trying to find the most-perfect shots. Use pictures that tell what it is you want to say about your mum.

The ones where she is out in her garden, or playing with the kids, or baking something fabulous. It can even be just a couple of pictures she is in!

Can't find what you are looking for?



Not to worry. Simply journal the story with a nice pink pen, and embellish the page using her favorite colors and a few silk flowers.

If an album is more than you had in mind, make her a page. Instead of sending her the usual card this year, you can give her an entire completed layout, all ready for her album or ready to be framed.

Here's a title: **"The Top Ten Things**



I Learned From My Mum." Journal each "thing" on it's own strip of solid cardstock, with a bold, highly contrasting colored pen. Start the list with how she taught

you to ride your bike and lick the beaters when you baked, and take it from there.

Or, make your top ten list of what SHE loves most in life. Include her favorite people, her hobbies, her old tattered Bonds sweatshirt, etc...

Create a page with **"What I love About My Mum..."** Is it the way she makes people feel, or her easy laugh, or the fact that no matter what the weather, and no matter how far she had to drive, that she never, never missed one of your sporting events? Honor her for it. She's your mother, and you mean the world to her. Tell her specifically how and why she means the world to you, too.

Whether you choose to make an album, or a page, focus on simplicity. Choose papers in her favorite colors, and if you're doing several pages or a whole album, consider using several sheets of the same prints, laid out in different ways. Not only will you streamline the creation process, you'll also "theme" your layouts and give them a nice, connected feel.

When you are done, you not only will be blessing your mum, you'll be blessing yourself. This is a fun simple project you can pour your heart into and have it come back two fold to fill you up as well.

Welcome New Scrappers!

Here are the new scrappers that became members of our scrapbooking family this last month!

We'd like to welcome you publicly, and wish you all the best!

Rachel L. Sarah F. Debra B. Sharron F. Trish H. Teneale W. Katrina R. Kathy B. Petalee P. Karen B. Susan H. Kerry C. Sarah E. Julie J. Lisa F. Maryanne V. Nancy D. Olivia P. Julileanne K. Jessica B.

CLEARANCE SECTION

Don't forget to check out the clearance section on the website.

Products discounted from 20% to 75% until sold out.

April Scrap

Challenge Winner

Congratulations to Yvonne Harvey

Scrap Weekend Away

*Fri Aug 8 to Sun Aug 10
At Kiah Ridge*

*\$50 deposit by 15th May
BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW*

I Thanked Her For It Later:

One Daughter's Gratitude For The Love Her Mother Made Her Feel

"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." Marcel Proust

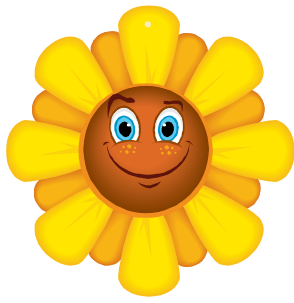
"In my eyes, my mum is "Superwoman!" She has talent beyond compare and is always capturing the lives of my sisters and me in one way or another. As wonderful as my mum is, I am not like her. But the one thing we do share in common is our contempt for clichés – they irritate us. Even so, there has been one phrase that has been repeated many, many times during my childhood. As Mum followed us, camera in hand, from every tennis match, to soccer game, to piano lesson, to formal hair appointment – making us promise to save any ticket stub, show program, matchbook or memento that we came across – my two younger sisters and I were victim to the old, "You'll thank me for this later." As we planned our family vacations, and the driving routes were mapped out around scrapbook stores, she always reminded us that we would "be grateful later on." And when she made me hang back from the rest of the group during my first college tour so she could take a picture of me in front of the university's big iron gates, she promised me that "one day" I would thank her for it.

To be honest, I never believed her. I mean, scrapbooking made my mum happy, and when she was happy, she tended to spend more time in her scrapbook room and less time telling me to get off-line and clean out my closet – and for this I was always grateful. Mum's scrapbooks were always fun to look at. My friends especially liked to take my high-school album off the shelf and find themselves in the many pages that my mum had labored over. My sisters loved to look at the pages of their birthday parties, dance recitals and basketball games. I loved any page where my hair looked all right and my braces weren't on. I enjoyed my mum's books, of course, and I recognized her talent for scrapbooking, as well as for photography, but I don't know that I was ever overcome with gratitude.

Along with just about every other aspect of my life, this changed the day I was accepted to my first-choice college. I realized then that of all the important things that will happen in my life after my high-school graduation, there will not be many more that I will be home to experience. Beyond that, even the little things my mum scrapbooked – from random days at school, to football games, to the series finale of *Friends* that made me cry – would not mean as much to anyone else in the world as they did to her.

I am so grateful that my mum has spent the time, money, talent and energy to record and celebrate every moment of my first seventeen years. I am grateful for the physical aspect of the books: the beauty of the papers, stamps and letters that she used. I am grateful for the gift I have been given of memories: These books are a yearbook of my life, with all the people and things I love, highlighted with emphasis on all of the significant moments. She gets such enormous joy from making sure my sisters and I are aware of the fact that every little thing we do means the world to her. I have never felt more loved or important than the day I realized the one thing in the world that makes my mum happiest is when she is spending time on my life: taking pictures, writing about it, finding papers that embody it and making note of its every minute." *Arielle Napp*

We love helping our customers and their friends and relatives with all of their photo and scrapbooking projects! We are here to help you keep scrapbooking fun and stress FREE! Don't be a stranger. Stop in or Call us, and we will assist you with all of your scrapping needs.



SELECTED QUOTES FROM

Be HAPPY: Some LITTLE REMINDERS To HELP You Live A HAPPIER LIFE

By Monica Sheehan

“Show up ... Follow your heart ... stay inspired ... stop being a victim ... do things you're good at ... love your work ... get a new perspective ... have a sense of wonder ... don't isolate ... find people you love ... set goals ... finish what you started ... help others ... dance ... pamper yourself ... face your fears ... go to a museum ... exercise ... limit television ... listen to music ... get in touch with nature ... lighten up ... have a moral compass ... get a good night's sleep ... read books ... buy yourself flowers ... reach out ... set up a realistic schedule ... don't compare yourself with others ... live in the moment ... don't beat yourself up ... accept that life has its ups and downs ... every night reflect about the 'good' things about your day ... be open to new ideas ... believe in yourself ... be kind ... let people know how special they are ... be honest with yourself ... don't focus on negative thoughts ... focus on creating what you desire ... make time just to have fun ... say thank you to the people who teach you, support you, encourage you – and get you a cup of coffee ... don't forget money doesn't buy happiness ... give away what you don't need to someone who does ... value who you are right now ... to be part of a community ... find a common ground ... keep the romance in your life ... make a gratitude list ... love your Mother Earth ... do your best ... don't lose hope – you never know what tomorrow will bring ... keep learning ... want what you have ... believe in something bigger than yourself ... stay close to friends and family ... be true to yourself.”

Featured Product Of The Month:

Our Entire Inventory Of Mini-Albums and Brag Books!

May 11th is Mother's Day, and to help you honor your mother, we are offering 20% off our entire supply of mini-albums and brag books. Remember: it's not about trying to create a work of art, it's about celebrating your mum and the ones you love. (I mean, when you were little, didn't she find a spot on the refrigerator for every picture that came home from school? Trust me, she'll feel the same way about this album.)



MTL's FEATURED MAY PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

20% off

**our ENTIRE selection of mini-scrapbook albums (4x4, 6x6, 8x8),
Bazzill Accordion Books, DaisyDs CD Mini Books and brag books!**

Valid till 16-05-2008. May not be used in combination with any other coupons or special offers.