

*Creative Living  
with  
Sheryl Borden*



Home, Hearth & Health Section 2

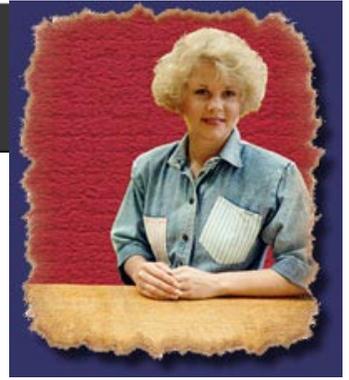
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**Due to the size of this section, it has been divided into 2 parts. For instance, Syndrome X Files is in Section 1, page 3. Whereas, Faux Fun is in Section 2, Page 10.**





## QRB Furniture Refinishing & Restoration

Lynn Gerhart is the spokesperson for QRB Industries, and here's her story. My father, Ron Hack started QRB in 1963 while working as an X-ray technician. My parents bought an old house and store on the highway in Niles Michigan. My dad decided to put the commercial property to good use so he started out selling fruit. Later on he began to visit the dump and pick out old discarded furniture. He taught himself how to reupholster and started a small used furniture store.

He bought some paint remover to refinish some of the furniture but wasn't happy with what he found. None of the products worked very well, they damaged the furniture, and were expensive. Having some background in chemistry he decided to make something for himself.

He came up with something he liked and refined it over time. Customers coming into our store asked him what he was using that did such a nice job. After explaining it was his own concoction many of them insisted he sell them some. He would have them bring in a jar and he would fill it for a couple dollars. Soon he decided to design a label and start marketing his new invention. He called it QRB for "Quick Restored Beauty".

My father came home from the hospital one day and told my mom "I quit my job today!" My mother was very concerned, being the conservative one in the family. But it has worked out quite nicely. Later my father added Instant Finish, Match-a-Color Stain, and Scratch-Remover to the product line.

Over the years much of our advertising has been by word of mouth and we have a loyal following of customers. We think this is due largely to the fact that we are not just trying to sell a product but to teach people how to refinish furniture. In 1981 we started doing local television shows. We often could not show our product but we would announce that we would be at a flea-market or a fair and that people could bring their own furniture to try it on. This proved to be a big success and thereafter we were convinced that *teaching* people how to refinish was the best approach. We have great products and we are sure you will agree if you try them.



**COURTESY: Lynn Hack-Gerhart**  
**QRB Industries**  
[www.qrb.com](http://www.qrb.com)



# wallcoverings association

## Why Wallpaper?

*With so many decorating options, why choose wallpaper?*

1. Wallpaper is a great impersonator. It can change the visual appearance of your room in many ways.

Decide what you want to accomplish in each room in your home. How do you want to feel when you go into a particular room? Wallpaper, like a fine set of clothing helps you make the most of your room's strong points, while masking its weaker features.

Wallpaper:

- brightens a dark room
- adds character to a dull room
- warms up a room with no architectural features
- creates a cozy atmosphere
- frames the room's best features
- reveals your personality more than any other wall treatment



In addition, wallpaper featuring certain patterns such as stripes and overall prints to perform optical illusions that make rooms that ordinarily look too long, too boxy or have low ceilings appear more proportionate.

2. Wallpaper makes the greatest impact in your room, in a single-application. No other decorating product offers so much color, design and coverage to suit any mood, taste and need.

3. Wallpaper is economical.

While many wall treatments may seem inexpensive, you have to consider the long-term care of them. Many of today's wallpaper varieties have a life of seven to ten years. In addition, wallpapers defined as scrubbable may be cleaned with soap, warm water and a



gentle sponging ù a must in the active family's busy where every square inch of space is used.

4. Wallpaper is easy to install. Don't be fooled! Hanging wallpaper is fun and easy - when you follow the manufacturer's instructions that come with each roll of your wallpaper. You also can speak to your local retailer who will be happy to provide helpful hints and tips to make your job easier. Many retailers, in fact, offer wallpaper hanging clinics geared to the first-time hanger. Make it a party. Invite a friend, put on some music and watch your walls come to life!



5. Wallpaper sets a theme. Use it throughout the house. Today's wallpaper collections are user-friendly, featuring a host of coordinating patterns, borders and color schemes that create a unified design theme throughout your home. Spread some personality in every room!

6. Wallpaper makes the most of your favorite things. Do you love sailing, golfing, the seashore? Do you collect pipes, dolls, china or impressionistic prints? Frame out a favorite collection or pastime with wallpaper that helps accentuate your favorite things.

7. Wallpaper creates detail where there once was none.

Moved in to a house that has all the personality of a plain white box? Try some wallpaper. Wallpaper is the economical way to add missing architectural elements to your room without hiring a general contractor. Create a chair rail with a wallpaper border. Use a full-wall



pattern cut into proportionate shapes to make a paneled effect up a wall leading to a vaulted ceiling. Draw attention to a fireplace focal-point wall by wrapping it with a strong pattern, or create a focal-point wall using the same strong pattern on any blank wall. All it takes is a little imagination.

8. Wallpaper coordinates with the looks you love.

Today's wallpaper designers have captured virtually every fashion statement popular today from fresh country looks to upscale modern motifs.

9. Wallpaper adds value to your home.

- Covers flaws in the wall surface that paint can't.
- Protects the wall surface from marks made by today's busy family.
- Provides certain air of quality and richness not found in uncovered walls.
- An excellent fast-fix for those selling their home. Wallpaper offers a wide range of subtle patterns and colors to neutralize the interior to fit anyone's style.
- Adds value to your most important investment.

Retail studies show that a tastefully decorated home can attain a 10 to 15 percent increase in property value.

10. Wallpaper is always IN.

Wallpaper is a timeless decorating product. As new styles emerge, wallpaper designers capture it, define it and present it in a variety of color choices. With its ability to capture any style or color scheme, wallpaper helps you express your personality and style - from contemporary to romantic to country or eclectic!

COURTESY: Anne Martin  
The Wallcoverings Assn.  
[www.wallcoverings.org](http://www.wallcoverings.org)

# Home, Hearth & Health Guests

Mark Alyn  
110 W. 9th Ave.  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
E-Mail: [markalyncom@mac.com](mailto:markalyncom@mac.com)

Lisa Daniel  
45 Pounds LLC  
P. O. Box 595  
Grass Plains, TX 76437  
254-725-4224  
E-Mail: [lisa@45pounds.com](mailto:lisa@45pounds.com)  
Home Page: [www.45pounds.com](http://www.45pounds.com)

Laura Dellutri  
Healthy Housekeeper, Inc.  
11730 West 135th #6  
Overland Park, KS 66221  
913-208-5209  
E-Mail: [dellutril@aol.com](mailto:dellutril@aol.com)  
Home Page: [www.lauradellutri.com](http://www.lauradellutri.com)

Lynn Hack-Gerhart  
QRB Industries  
6340 N. Eldridge, Suite I-340  
Houston, TX 77041  
713-289-0484  
E-Mail: [larry.hack@qrb.com](mailto:larry.hack@qrb.com)  
Webpage: [www.qrb.com](http://www.qrb.com)

Whitney Hobson  
ENMU Student  
Portales, NM 88130  
505-356-3888 or 505-317-3612  
e-mail: [whittystar@hotmail.com](mailto:whittystar@hotmail.com)

Anne Martin  
The Wallcovering Assn.  
% CRT/Tanika 320 W. 13th St., 7th Fl.  
New York, NY 10014  
212-2290500, Ext. 276  
Home Page: [www.wallcoverings.org](http://www.wallcoverings.org)  
E-Mail: [alillo@ptnaka.com](mailto:alillo@ptnaka.com)  
Anne's e-mail: [anne@martinmarcom.com](mailto:anne@martinmarcom.com)  
Anne's Home Page: [www.martinmarcom.com](http://www.martinmarcom.com)

Lacy Roberts  
Haverty's Furniture  
7401 Quaker Ave.  
Lubbock, TX 79424  
806-799-7544  
e-mail: [lroberts@havertys.com](mailto:lroberts@havertys.com)  
Home Page: [www.havertys.com](http://www.havertys.com)

Marcie Rothman  
Five-Spot Press/Western Research Kitchens  
P. O. Box 6789  
San Diego, CA 92166  
888-243-3535

Barbara Wurden  
Faux Fun, Inc.  
376 Orizaba Ave.  
Long Beach, CA 90814  
562-433-9878  
FAX: 562-433-7137  
e-mail: [barbara@fauxfun.com](mailto:barbara@fauxfun.com)  
Home Page: [www.fauxfun.com](http://www.fauxfun.com)