

GREETINGS

Crafts offer alternative

By Andy Dunn
Emerald Contributor

Do you still need gifts for the holiday season? Are you tired of feeding our consumer-crazed, economic system with your hard earned cash only to walk away with impersonal, mass-produced plastic junk?

Fear not! The mighty EMU Craft Center offers inexpensive alternatives for your holiday gift needs. You can buy handmade crafts at the EMU Crafts Fair or make your own at the center.

The fair will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 9 and 10 in the EMU Fir Room (Room 167) from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will be free hot cider, live entertainment, craft demonstrations, as well as craft items for sale. Glassworks, woodworks, or-

naments, jewelry, cards, and pottery — all of these hand-made items will be selling for reasonable prices just in time for the holidays.

Perhaps the most inexpensive yet personal gift you could give would be one you made yourself. The craft center, located on the first floor of the EMU, can help you make your presents. Instead of a greetings card with sentiments written by someone else, you can relay your own personal messages and private jokes on a hand-made card. immortalize your father on wood. Dazzle your sister with handmade earrings. Decorate your home with ornaments and pictures. It should mean more to you and to them that you made it yourself.

The EMU Craft Center provides space and materials for work with ceramics, fibers, stained glass, wood, jewelry and photography.

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No messy needles to clean up after the holidays."

If a real tree still sounds better but it just needs something, try flocking. For a small fee, many tree sellers will coat a just-bought Christmas tree with an unknown but colorful and fluffy substance to add that extra ounce of excitement to Christmas morning.

Much like white flocking, snow increases the seasonal spirit. We bundle up. We build fires. We roast nuts. But since we see snow once every ten to 20 years in Eugene, how do we fake it?

Loose white asbestos insulation works best, but those little white packing material things

work well too, if confined to an area like a dormitory hallway, a living room or someone else's front yard.

Also an innovative decorator can tape tea bags to the ceiling in pleasing designs, converting it to an attractive and great smelling conversation starter. Add a red ribbon for more Christmas spirit.

The tinsel was hung on the tree with care in hopes that kids would soon be there.

The children dreamed, all snug in their beds, visions of Santa and Gumbi- Elf danced in their heads.

The living room was flocked in snowy white, truly a perfect Christmas sight.

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