A trip to Bavaria for “Berlioz the Bear” brought Jan and Joe to Barchtesgaden, hometown of their friend Edith Gilson, owner of the Cupboards and Roses antiques shop in Sheffield, Connecticut. That’s where the couple bought this c. 1887 decorative cupboard. Notes Jan, “It was a lot easier to get it home from there.”

Jan admires last names that evoke creatures. Her husband’s name, “Hearne,” is close to “heron”—“a most adept and stately bird”—so it’s their representational animal. This heron is from a Pendleton blanket scrap; Jan needlepointed the border to create a pillow.

This majolica nut dish is a George Jones piece and one that is “definitely put away on a high shelf when youngsters visit,” says Jan. Jones, famous for his brilliantly colored ceramics, started a factory in 1861; today, his pottery is sought after by collectors around the world.