

Dennis Family Cookbook

2018 Edition

All true friendliness begins with fire and food and drink and the recognition of rain or frost. ...Each human soul has in a sense to enact for itself the gigantic humility of the Incarnation. Every man must descend into the flesh to meet mankind.

- G. K. Chesterton

Contents

1	Breakfasts	4
1.1	Cowboy Coffee Cake [Christmas]	5
1.2	Favorite Pancakes	6
1.2.1	Apple Spice Pancakes	6
1.2.2	Banana Pancakes	7
1.2.3	Cheese and Bacon Pancakes	7
1.2.4	Ham Pancakes	7
1.2.5	Pineapple Pancakes	7
1.2.6	Raisin Pancakes	8
1.2.7	Waffles	8
1.3	Hard Boiled Eggs	9
1.4	Lemon and Ginger Scones	10
1.5	Ziploc Omelet	11
2	Soups	12
2.1	Caldo Verde (Spicy Sausage and Kale Sopa)	13
2.2	Chili con Carne	14
2.3	Cream of Tomato Soup	15
2.4	Creamy Spinach Artichoke Soup	16
2.5	Creamy Sweet Potato Soup	18
2.6	Fruit Soup [Christmas]	19
3	Breads	20
3.1	Buttermilk Biscuits	21
3.2	Mile High Biscuits	22
3.3	Pioneer Cornbread	23
3.4	Southern Pecan Biscuits	24
4	Appetizers & Side Dishes	25
4.1	Apple Salad Dressig (for waldorf salad)	26
4.2	Cranberry Cherry Jello Salad	27
4.3	Easy Guacamole	28
4.4	Five Cup Salad	29
4.5	Hummus	30
4.6	Indian Style Basmati Rice	31
4.7	Red Hot Jello	32
5	Vegetables	33
5.1	Coleslaw	34
5.2	Heather's Brussel Sprouts	35

6	Entrees	36
6.1	Chef John's Chicken Tikka Masala	37
6.1.1	Clarified Butter (Ghee)	38
6.2	Gourmet Four Cheese Macaroni and Cheese	40
6.3	Karen Martin's Teriyaki Marinade	42
6.4	Grandma's Swedish Meatballs [Christmas]	43
6.5	Norwegian Lefse and Meatballs [Christmas]	44
6.6	Red, White, and Blue Mac and Cheese	46
6.7	Teresa Gay's Sweet and Sour Chicken	48
7	Deserts	49
7.1	Banana Cupcakes with Honey Cinnamon Frosting	50
7.1.1	Honey Cinnamon Frosting	50
7.2	Banana Pudding	52
7.3	Better Than Anything Toffee Recipe	53
7.4	Cake Pops	54
7.5	Chocolate Chip Cookie Cheesecake	55
7.6	Cranberry Orange Shortbread Cookies	56
7.7	Crock Pot Candy	57
7.8	Dark Molasses Cookies	58
7.9	Dutch Apple Pie	59
7.10	English Toffee Sandie Cookies [Christmas]	60
7.11	Giant Ginger Cookies	61
7.11.1	Chocolate Sauce	61
7.12	Magnolia's Chocolate Cupcakes	63
7.12.1	Magnolia's Vanilla Buttercream Frosting	64
7.12.2	Magnolia's Chocolate Buttercream Frosting	64
7.13	Mary Martins's Chocolate Chip Cookies	66
7.14	Old-Fashioned Pecan Pie	67
7.15	Orange Pecan Crunch [Christmas]	68
7.16	Pudding & Cream Cheese Mystery Desert	69
7.17	Rhubarb Pie	70
7.18	Rice Pudding [Christmas]	71
7.19	Saltine Cracker Candy [Christmas]	72
7.20	Shortbread Cookies [Christmas]	73
7.21	Tom Dennis Master Custard Ice Cream Recipe	74
7.21.1	Almond Flavor	74
7.21.2	Pistachio Flavor	75
7.21.3	Peanut Butter Flavor	76
7.21.4	Coconut Flavor	76
8	Drinks	78
8.1	German Mulled Wine [Christmas]	79
8.2	Nicole's Hard Eggnog	80
8.3	Old Fashioned Cocktail	81

1 Breakfasts

1.1 Cowboy Coffee Cake [Christmas]

- 1 tbsp vinegar
- 1 cup milk
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2/3 cups shortening
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 2 well beaten Eggs

1. Create sour milk by putting vinegar in an empty 1 cup measuring cup. Fill remaining space in the cup with with milk.
2. Combine flour, brown sugar, salt, and shortening till crumbly. Reserve 1/2 cup of mixture to crumble over batter later.
3. Add baking power, baking soda, cinnamon and nutmeg remaining batter. Mix thoroughly.
4. Add sour milk and well beaten eggs. Mix well.
5. Line 2 8x8 square pans with wax paper. Pour batter into pans. Sprinkle with reserved crumbs.
6. Bake at 375 degrees for approx. 25 minutes.

1.2 Favorite Pancakes

- 2 cups flour (500 ml)
- 2 tablespoons sugar, optional (30 ml)
- 4 teaspoons baking powder (20 ml)
- 1 teaspoon salt, optional (5 ml)
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 1/2 cups milk (370 ml)
- 1/4 cup oil or melted shortening (60 ml)

1. Combine in a medium bowl the flower, sugar, baking powder and salt.
2. Combine seperately and then add to the main bowl the eggs and milk oil/shortening.
3. Stir quickly until blended. Do not beat. Cook on a hot, greased griddle, turning when bubbly. Yields about 15 3-inch pancakes (8 cm)

(Note: use any mixture of flours: whole wheat, white, oatmeal, rye, wheat germ, cornmeal, rice flour, millet, etc.)

1.2.1 Apple Spice Pancakes

- 1 cup grated apple (250 ml)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice (15 ml)
- 2 tablespoons sugar (30 ml)
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon (2 ml)

1. Add the apple, lemon juice, sugar, and cinnamon to base mixture before cooking on griddle.

1.2.2 Banana Pancakes

- 3/4 to 1 cup liquid mashed ripe bananas (180-250 ml)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice (15 ml)
- 2 tablespoons sugar (30 ml)

1. Add the bananas, lemon juice, and sugar on to base mixture before cooking on griddle.

1.2.3 Cheese and Bacon Pancakes

- 1/2 cup grated cheese
- 1/2 cup crisp crumbled bacon

1. Add the cheese and bacon on to base mixture before cooking on griddle.

1.2.4 Ham Pancakes

- 1/2 to 1 cup ground or chopped ham (120-250 ml)

1. Add the ham on to base mixture before cooking on griddle.

1.2.5 Pineapple Pancakes

- 1 cup pineapple
- 3/4 cup pineapple juice
- 3/4 cup powdered milk

1. Use the pineapple juice and powdered milk *INSTEAD* of regular milk in the base mixture. Add the pineapple on to base mixture before cooking on griddle.

1.2.6 Raisin Pancakes

- 1 cup raisins (250 ml).

1. Add the raisins on to base mixture before cooking on griddle. Serve with jam.

1.2.7 Waffles

1. Separate egg yolks from whites before beating eggs. Keep yolks in milk mixture. Fold in stiffly beaten whites into completed batter before cooking on griddle.

1.3 Hard Boiled Eggs

- eggs
- water

1. Place eggs in water, add enough water so eggs are covered by an inch or two of water. The more eggs, the more water (6 eggs - 1 inch water, 7-12 eggs - two inches of water)
2. Bring water to roiling boil.
3. Turn off heat, leave pot on hot burner for 10 to 12 minutes (slightly more if lots of water).
4. Remove eggs from water.

1.4 Lemon and Ginger Scones

- 2 cups (260 grams) all purpose flour
- 1/3 cup (50 grams) granulated white sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup (113 grams) (1 stick) unsalted butter, cold and cut into pieces
- 1/2 cup (70 grams) crystallized ginger, chopped into small pieces
- Zest of 1 large lemon
- 2/3 cup (160 ml) buttermilk

1. In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Cut the butter into small pieces and blend into the mixture with a pasty blender or two knives. The mixture should look like coars crumbs.
2. Stir in the chopped crystalized ginger and lemon zest. Add the buttermilk to flour mixture just until the dough comes together. Do not over mix the dough.
3. Transfer to a lightly floured surface and knead dough gently four or five times and then pat the dough into a circle that is about 7 inches (18cm) round and about 1 1/2 inches (3.75 cm) thick.
4. Cut the circle in half, then cut each half into 4 pie shaped wedges (triangles). Place the scones on the baking sheet. Brush the tops of the scones with a little cream.
5. Bake for about 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown and a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean. Transfer to a wire rack to cool (makes 8 scones).

1.5 Ziploc Omelet

- 2 eggs per person
- Ingredients to taste (cheese, ham, bacon bits, onion, hash browns, salsa, tomato, peppers, etc.)

1. Write each persons name on a quart-sized Ziploc bag. Crack eggs into bag (2 per bag)
2. Shake and combine eggs. Add in optional ingredients. Shake the bag ot combine and zip it up.
3. Submerse the bags into a large pot of rolling, boiling water for EXACTLY 13 MINUTES. A large pot of water
4. Can usually handle 6-8 omelets. Unzip the bags and roll onto plates

2 Soups

2.1 Caldo Verde (Spicy Sausage and Kale Soup)

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 tsp chopped garlic
- 5 cups Idaho potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced
- 1 quart water
- 1 quart chicken broth
- 6 oz chorizo sausage, thinly sliced
- salt and black pepper
- 1 lb kale, washed, trimmed of the thick stems and thinly sliced

1. In a medium soup pot, heat 3 tablespoons of olive oil, add onions and garlic and cook for 2 to 3 minutes until they turn glassy, don't let them get brown.
2. Add potatoes and water. Cover and boil gently over medium heat for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, in a skillet cook sausage until most of the fat is rendered out. Drain and set aside.
3. When the potatoes are tender, mash them with a potato masher right in the pot. Add sausage to the soup then add kale. Simmer for 5 minutes. Add the remaining olive oil and season. Ladle into bowls and serve.

2.2 Chili con Carne

- 1 lb ground beef (or turkey)
- 1 C chopped onion
- 3/4 C green pepper
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 28 oz can tomatoes, cut up
- 2 16 oz cans dark red kidney beans, drained
- 1 16 oz can tomato sauce
- 3 oz (1/2 can) tomato paste
- 1 T chili powder
- 1 tsp dried basil, crushed
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper

1. In a large kettle cook ground beef, onion, green pepper, and garlic until meat is browned. Drain off fat.
2. Stir in undrained tomatoes, kidney beans, tomato sauce, chili powder, basil, salt, and pepper. Bring to boiling; reduce heat.
3. Cover and simmer about 20 minutes
4. Makes 4-6 servings

2.3 Cream of Tomato Soup

- 8 medium tomatoes, peeled and seeded
- 1 teaspoon basil, fresh, chopped
- 1 1/2 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 dashes pepper
- 1 cup 2% low-fat milk

1. Combine broth, onion, tomato & basil in a saucepan. Bring to boil, reduce heat, cover & simmer 15 min.
2. Blend with hand blender until smooth. Pour into bowl.
3. Melt butter in the saucepan. Stir in the flour, salt & pepper.
4. Add milk all at once. Cook & stir until mixture is thickened and bubbly.
5. Stir in tomato mixture. Cook & stir till soup is heated through. Season to taste with more salt & pepper.

2.4 Creamy Spinach Artichoke Soup

Servings: 6; Authors: Melissa Stadler, Modern Honey & Allison Dennis

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 onion chopped
- 4 garlic cloves minced (or 3/4 teaspoon garlic powder)
- 1 9-ounce package of fresh chopped spinach (may use 3/4 of package, if so desire)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 3 tablespoons flour (may delete if you want gluten-free or keto-friendly soup)
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 1 14-ounce can artichoke hearts drained and roughly chopped
- 2 cups heavy cream (depending on how creamy you want the soup)
- 1 8 ounce package cream cheese (cubed)
- 1 cup parmesan cheese plus additional 1/2 cup for garnish
- 1.5 pound chicken, boiled then diced

1. In a pot, boil water
2. In a separate large pot, melt butter over medium-high heat. Add onion and saute for 5 minutes.
3. Boil chicken in water pot.
4. Add garlic and saute for 1 minute longer.
5. Stir in fresh spinach. Stir often and break apart using a wooden spoon. Cook for 5-7 minutes or until spinach is wilted. Sprinkle with salt and pepper.
6. Stir in flour, stirring well to avoid any lumps.
7. Pour in chicken broth and artichoke hearts.

8. Remove chicken from heat, drain water, and add chicken to soup mixture. Heat for 5-10 minutes.
9. Turn heat to LOW. Add heavy cream and stir together (low heat prevents curdling).
10. Add cream cheese and let melt slowly while stirring. Takes about 15-20 minutes
11. Stir in parmesan cheese.
12. Season according to taste. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese shavings

2.5 Creamy Sweet Potato Soup

- 2 Tbsp (1/4 stick) butter
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 small celery stalks, chopped
- 1 medium leek, sliced (white and pale green parts only)
- 1 large garlic clove, chopped
- 1 1/2 pounds red-skinned sweet potatoes (yams), peeled, cut into 1 inch pieces (about 5 cups)
- 4 cups chicken stock or canned low-salt chicken broth (use vegetable broth for vegetarian option)
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 1/2 cups half and half
- 2 Tbsp maple syrup
- The leafy tops of the celery stalks, chopped

1. Melt the butter in a large, heavy-bottomed pot over medium-high heat. Add the chopped onion and saute for about 5 minutes. Add chopped celery stalks and leek, saute about 5 minutes. Add garlic and saute 2 minutes.
2. Add sweet potatoes, chicken stock, cinnamon stick, and nutmeg; bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer uncovered until potatoes are tender, about 20 minutes.
3. Remove cinnamon stick and discard. Working in batches, puree soup in blender until smooth. Return to pot.
4. Add half and half and maple syrup and stir over medium-high heat to heat through. Season soup to taste with salt and pepper. (Can be prepared 1 day ahead. Cool soup slightly. Cover and refrigerate soup and celery leaves separately. Bring soup to simmer before continuing.) Ladle into bowls. Sprinkle with celery leaves.

2.6 Fruit Soup [Christmas]

- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup prunes
- 1/2 cup rice or tapioca
- 1 orange
- 1 lemon
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 2 apples
- Any fruit juice cocktail
- 2 quarts water

1. Peel and dice apples. Juice orange and lemon.
2. Place all ingredients in a large pot. Simmer slowly for several hours stirring occasionally until thickened.

3 Breads

3.1 Buttermilk Biscuits

- 2 cups flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 5 tbsp shortening
- 3 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 1 cup buttermilk

1. Combine dry ingredients, cut in shortening, add buttermilk. Knead a couple of times in your hands.
2. Roll out on floured board, cut with biscuit cutter. Bake at 450 for 10-12 minutes.

3.2 Mile High Biscuits

- 3 cups flour
- 1 tbsp plus 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp cream of tartar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 cup plus 2 tbsp milk

1. Combine dry ingredients. Cut in shortening. Add egg and milk all at once. Knead 10 or 12 times.
2. Roll out. Cut with something smaller than a standard biscuit like a small juice glass. Place on ungreased
3. Cookie sheet and freeze. After frozen they can be removed from cookie sheet and put in a Ziploc bag.
4. Bake on lightly greased sheet at 475 for 12-15 minutes.

3.3 Pioneer Cornbread

- 1 1/3 C Cold Margerine or Butter (frozen is best)
- 1 C sugar
- 2 Eggs
- 1 C cornmeal
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 C flour
- 1 T baking powder
- 2 C milk

1. Cut margerine/butter into small cubes.
2. Mix margerine/butter with sugar and eggs. Mix well and make sure the cubes are well separated and not clumped together
3. Add remaining ingredients and stir until moistened
4. Pour into a greased 9x13 pan or two greased cast iron skillets
5. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-30 min. Cornbread is done when a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean
6. If desired: remove pan from the oven and turn on the broiler, move the rack to the top position and brown the cornbread under the boiler for 30 seconds or so. Watch carefully the entire time. The bread can turn from brown to burned in seconds!

3.4 Southern Pecan Biscuits

- 3/4 cup mashed sweet potatoes or yams
- 1/2 cup melted margarine
- 2 tbsp brown sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 cups flour
- 3 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

1. Combine potatoes, margarine, sugar and milk until smooth. Add dry ingredients just until moistened.
2. Stir in pecans. Roll dough to 1/2 inch thickness and cut with floured cutter. Bake at 400 for 12-18 minutes.

4 Appetizers & Side Dishes

4.1 Apple Salad Dressig (for waldorf salad)

- 2 eggs
- 1/4 tsp celery seed
- 3 tbsp vinegar
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp flour
- pinch of salt
- 1/4 tsp dry mustard

1. Stir together,. Cook until thick. Add cool whip till its just how you like it.

4.2 Cranberry Cherry Jello Salad

- 2 cups fresh cranberries
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 cup water
- 3 oz cherry jello
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup chopped apples

1. Boil berries, sugar, and water until berries pop, remove from heat.
2. Add jello and let cool slightly.
3. Mix in celery, nuts and apples. Put in fridge to chill for a couple hours.

4.3 Easy Guacamole

- 2 avocados
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 ripe tomato, chopped
- 1 lime, juiced
- salt and pepper to taste

1. Peel and mash avocados in a medium serving bowl. Stir in onion, garlic, tomato, lime juice, salt and pepper. Season with remaining lime juice and salt and pepper to taste. Chill for half an hour to blend flavors.

4.4 Five Cup Salad

- 11 oz can mandarin oranges
- 1 cup coconut
- 1 cup sour cream
- 8 1/4 can pineapple tidbits
- 1 cup marshmallows

1. Lightly mix all ingredients together.
- 2.

4.5 Hummus

- 15 ounce can (425 grams) chickpeas, also called garbanzo beans
- 1/4 cup (59 ml) fresh lemon juice, about 1 large lemon
- 1/4 cup (59 ml) well-stirred tahini
- Half of a large garlic clove, minced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, plus more for serving
- 1/2 to 1 teaspoon kosher salt, depending on taste
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 2 to 3 tablespoons water
- Dash of ground paprika for serving

1. In the bowl of a food processor, combine tahini and lemon juice. Process for 1 minute. Scrape sides and bottom of bowl then turn on and process for 30 seconds. This extra time helps "whip" or "cream" the tahini, making smooth and creamy hummus possible.
2. Add the olive oil, minced garlic, cumin and the salt to the whipped tahini and lemon juice mixture. Process for 30 seconds, scrape sides and bottom of bowl then process another 30 seconds.
3. Open can of chickpeas, drain liquid then rinse well with water. Add half of the chickpeas to the food processor then process for 1 minute. Scrape sides and bottom of bowl, add remaining chickpeas and process for 1 to 2 minutes or until thick and quite smooth.
4. Most likely the hummus will be too thick or still have tiny bits of chickpea. To fix this, with the food processor turned on, slowly add 2 to 3 tablespoons of water until the consistency is perfect.
5. Scrape the hummus into a bowl, then drizzle about 1 tablespoon of olive oil over the top and sprinkle the paprika.

(Note: Store homemade hummus in an airtight container and refrigerate up to one week.)

4.6 Indian Style Basmati Rice

- 1 1/2 cups basmati rice
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 (2 inch) piece cinnamon stick
- 2 pods green cardamom
- 2 whole cloves
- 1 tablespoon cumin seed
- 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 2 1/2 cups water
- 1 small onion, thinly sliced

1. Place rice into a bowl with enough water to cover. Set aside to soak for 20 minutes.
2. Heat the oil in a large pot or sacuepan over medium heat. Add the cinnamon stick, cardamom pods, cloves, and cumin seed. Cook and stir for about a minute, then add the onion to the pot. Saute the onion until a rich golden brown, about 10 minutes.
3. Drain the water from the rice, and stir the pot. Cook and stir the rice for a few minutes, until lightly toasted. Add salt and water to the pot, and bring to boil. Cover, and reduce heat to low. Simmer for about 15 minutes, or until all of th water has been absorbed. Let stand for 5 minutes, then fluff with a fork before serving.

4.7 Red Hot Jello

- 1/2 cup water
- 1 pkg red jello
- 1/4 cup red hot candies (generally cinnamon candies)
- 1 applesauce

1. Boile water and add water to red jello and candies. Dissolve candies.
2. Mix in applesauce. Chill in fridge for a couple hours.

5 Vegetables

5.1 Coleslaw

- 1 head of cabbage, chopped
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 tsp celery salt

1. Bring sugar, vinegar, water, and salt to a boil, then boil for 3 minutes to create cabbage dressing.
2. Mix dressing with chopped cabbage.

5.2 Heather's Brussel Sprouts

- 1 lb brussel sprouts
- olive oil
- minced garlic, 1-2 cloves
- salt and pepper to taste

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees
2. Wash brussel sprouts. Slice in half lengthwise.
3. Toss brussel sprouts with olive oil (1-2 Tbls) , minced garlic, and salt & pepper in ziploc bag.
4. Spread out sprouts in a single layer on a cookie sheet and bake for 30-45 min, shaking pan every 5-7 min for even browning. They will be dark brown to black when done. Season with additional salt to taste.

6 Entrees

6.1 Chef John's Chicken Tikka Masala

- 1 1/2 pounds skinless, boneless chicken thighs
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 2 teaspoons garam masala
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cardamom
- 2 tablespoons clarified butter (ghee), or more as needed
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1/4 cup tomato paste
- 4 cloves garlic, finely grated
- 1 tablespoon finely grated ginger, or more to taste
- 1 cup crushed tomatoes
- 1 (13 ounce) can coconut milk
- 1/2 cup chicken broth, or as needed
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- salt and ground black pepper to taste

(Note: It is recommended to eat this entre with a side dish of "Indian Style Basmati Rice" (see Appetizers & Side Dishes for recipe).)

1. Place chicken in a bowl and drizzle vegetable oil over chicken; toss to coat.
2. Whisk kosher salt, garam masala, ground cumin, ground coriander, smoked paprika, ground turmeric, black pepper, cayenne pepper, and cardamom together in a small bowl. Season chicken with spice mixture and turn to coat evenly.
3. Melt clarified butter in a large, heavy skillet over high heat. Cook chicken thighs in hot butter until browned on all sides, 5 to 10 minutes. Transfer chicken to a plate. When cool enough to handle, cut chicken into bite size pieces.
4. Reduce heat under the skillet to medium-high. Stir onion into skillet; saute until onion softens and turns translucent, 5 to 6 minutes. Add tomato paste and stir. Saute until paste caramelizes, about 5 minutes. Stir garlic and ginger into tomato-onion mixture and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute.
5. Pour the crushed tomatoes into the skillet and bring to a boil while scraping the browned bits of food off the bottom of the skillet with a wooden spoon. Pour in coconut milk and chicken broth; bring to a simmer, reduce heat to medium low, and cook, stirring occasionally, until flavors blend and sauce is slightly reduce, about 15 minutes.
6. Stir chicken, any accumulated juices from the chicken, cilantro, and red pepper flakes into tomato mixture; bring to a simmer, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook until chicken is cooked through and tender, 10 to 15 minutes. Season with salt and black pepper

6.1.1 Clarified Butter (Ghee)

- Amount of butter desired, cubed (some mass is lost in this process)

1. In a small saucepan, melt butter over medium-high heat
2. Continue to cook over medium-high heat; an even layer of white milk proteins will float to the surface.
3. Bring to a boil; the milk proteins will become foamy.
4. Lower heat to medium and continue to gently boil; the milk proteins will break apart.
5. As the butter gently boils, the milk proteins will eventually sink to the bottom of the pot, and the boiling will begin to calm and then cease.

6. Once boiling has stopped, pour butter through a cheesecloth-lined strainer or through a coffee filter into a heatproof container to remove browned milk solids. Let cool, then transfer to a sealed container and refrigerate until ready to use. Clarified butter should keep for at least 6 months in the refrigerator.

6.2 Gourmet Four Cheese Macaroni and Cheese

- 1 lb rotelle pasta (they look like wagon wheels)
- 3/4 lb sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1/2 lb gruyere cheese, shredded
- 1/2 cup asiago cheese, shredded
- 1/2 cup Fontina cheese, shredded
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 cups milk (2%)
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon dried mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
- 1 cup panko breadcumbs (japanese bread crumbs)

(This is a BAKED macaroni and cheese, therefore, it will NOT turn out with a lot of extra cheesy sauce, as it is absorbed into the pasta while baking. If you require an extra saucy mac & cheese, just reduce the amount of pasta you place into the dish or make more sauce so it is creamier.)

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 3 quart rectangular baking dish with non-stick spray. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to boiling.
2. Toss all the shredded cheeses together in a large bowl, set aside.
3. Melt butter in a medium-sized saucepan over medium heat. Whisk in the flour until smooth and slightly bubbly.
4. In a thin stream, whisk in the milk. Stir in the onion powder, salt, nutmeg, dried mustard and cayenne.

5. Bring to a boil over medium high heat. Reduce heat and simmer 3 minutes. Remove from heat; whisk in a 2 1/2 cups of the cheese mixture and stir until smooth. Cover to retain heat.
6. Once the water boils, add pasta. Cook until your desired doneness, then drain. In the pasta container stir together the cooked pasta and cheese sauce.
7. Pour half of the mixture into the prepared dish. Sprinkle with a generous cup of the reserved cheese. Spoon remaining cheese-covered pasta into the dish and top with the remaining cheese.
8. Add 1 cup of japanese panko bread crumbs to the top of the mixture.
9. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes or until the panko crumbs are lightly browned and the cheese is bubbly. Cool slightly before serving.

6.3 Karen Martin's Teriyaki Marinade

- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 2 tbsp white wine
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1/2 tsp ginger
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- optional, 1 tbsp cornstarch to thicken

1. Mix all ingredients together. Use as a meat marinate.

6.4 Grandma's Swedish Meatballs [Christmas]

- 1/2 lb beef
- 1/2 lb veal
- 1/2 lb ground pork
- 3 tbsp parsley
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp parika
- 1/8 tsp allspice
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp grated lemon on rind
- 1/3 tsp nutmeg

(This recipe is primarily for use with Lefse as an alternative for meatballs in that recipe. See "Norwegian Lefse and Meatballs" for instructions.)

1. Shape meat into 1 inch balls and brown in 2 tbsp butter. Simmer closely covered until done about 15 min.
2. In 2 cups stock. Make gravy and season with sherry or 1 or 2 tbsp fresh dil.

6.5 Norwegian Lefse and Meatballs [Christmas]

(Lefse)

- 4 cups brown, peeled potatoes
- 1/2 cup butter (alternate: 1/4 cup butter and 1/4 cup crisco)
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon Salt

(Meatballs)

- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1/2 cup minced onion
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 3/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 3/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 3/4 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 2 pounds lean ground beef
- 1 pound ground pork

(Gravy)

- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons minced onion
- 5 tablespoons all-purpose
- 4 cups beef broth
- 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
- Dash of cayenne pepper
- Dash of pepper

(Lefse)

1. Boil potatoes till tender.
2. Put potatoes through a potato ricer or food mill (makes potato into a very fine paste).
3. Mix in butter and salt while potatoes are still hot. Slowly add in flour.
4. The following formation and cooking process should be done by a 2 person team, the first person forms the lefse, the second person cooks and flips the lefse. Otherwise the process will take a very long time.
5. One at a time: Gently form into a shaped walnut sized ball (do not over handle). Roll on heavily floured surface (can roll on floured pastry cloth or tea towel). Flatten AS THIN AS POSSIBLE using a heavily floured rolling pin (best tool for this is a Lefse Rolling pin, or, if desparate, a rolling pin with a cloth sleeve. Whichever rolling pin used should be heavily floured and refloured between rolling each lefse).
6. Fry in a dry frying pan in a medium high heat. Look for little bubbles in the lefse, when the bubbles are evenly distributed it's time to flip it (the cooked side should have little light brown spots). Cooking per side should only take 10 to 20 seconds, if it's taking longer the griddle is probably not hot enough or the lefse is too thick. Once both sides are cooked, set aside on paper towels on a plate. (Manipulation of lefse is easiest with a Lefse stick, essentially a flattened, narrow ended stick).
7. It's a good idea to seperate every dozen or so lefse by paper towel when stacking, for ease of handling and storage. Store in an airtight container (Can be frozen once cooled. To thaw, simply leave them on the counter till room temperature.).

(Meatballs & Gravy)

1. In a mixing bowl, combine eggs, milk, bread crumbs, onion and seasonings. Let stand until crumbs absorb milk. Add meat; stir until well blended. Shape into 1 inch meatballs. Place on a greased jelly-roll pan. Bake at 400 degrees until browned, about 18 minutes. Set aside.
2. For gravy, melt butter over medium-high heat in a large skillet. Saute onion until tender. Stir in flour and brown lightly. Slowly add broth; cook and stir until smooth and thickened. Blend in cream, cayenne pepper and black pepper. Gently stir in meatballs; heat through but do not boil.

6.6 Red, White, and Blue Mac and Cheese

- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 1/2 cups half and half
- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
- 2 cloves garlic, finely grated
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- Salt and black pepper to taste
- 1 cup sun-dried tomatoes, drained and sliced
- 1 3/4 cups (7 ounces) Wisconsin white cheddar cheese, shredded and divided
- 1 3/4 cups (7 ounces) Wisconsin monterey jack cheese, shredded and divided
- 1 1/2 cups (9 ounces) Wisconsin blue cheese, crumbled and divided
- 1 pound cavatappi pasta cooked to al dente, drained and cooled
- paprika, optional

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a medium pot over medium heat, melt butter. Add flour and whisk for 3 minutes until lightly browned.
3. Add heavy whipping cream, half and half, garlic, cayenne, Worcestershire sauce, salt and pepper. Stir for about 3 minutes over medium heat until slightly thick.
4. Remove from heat and add sun dried tomatoes and cheeses, reserving 1/2 cup white cheddar, 1/2 cup monterey jack, and 1/2 cup blue cheese. Stir until cheese is melted into sauce.
5. Butter 13x9 baking dish. In large pot, add sauce to pasta. Stir until pasta is evenly coated. Pour into baking dish and spread evenly. Sprinkle reserved cheese over top. Sprinkle with paprika if desired.

6. Bake 25-30 minutes until bubbly. Let sit 5-10 minutes before serving.

6.7 Teresa Gay's Sweet and Sour Chicken

- 12 boneless, skinless chicken thighs, cut in half lengthwise (can also use wings)
- 2 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 1 cup cornstarch
- 2 eggs
- 1 tbsp water
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1 cup apple cider or balsamic vinegar
- 2 tbsp soy sauce

1. Mix together garlic powder, salt, pepper and cornstarch. Set aside.
2. In a separate bowl, beat together eggs and water. Set aside.
3. For the sauce, combine chicken broth, ketchup, brown sugar, apple cider/balsamic vinegar and soy sauce. Simmer together about 30 minutes.
4. Dip chicken in egg/water mixture, then in cornstarch and seasoning mixture.
5. Brown chicken in hot oil and lay in a shallow pan lined with foil.
6. Pour the cooked sauce over the chicken. It shouldn't totally cover the chicken.
7. Bake uncovered 45 min to 1 hour at 325 degrees F, basting with sauce several times.
8. You can brown chicken and freeze in pan. Thaw and continue by adding sauce and baking in the oven. Serve with white rice and sauce in side bowl.

7 Deserts

7.1 Banana Cupcakes with Honey Cinnamon Frosting

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, (spooned and leveled)
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 1 1/2 cups mashed bananas (about 4 ripe bananas), plus 1 whole banana, for garnish (optional)
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- Honey-Cinnamon Frosting

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a standard 12-cup muffin pan with paper liners. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt.
2. Make a well in center for flour mixture. In well, mix together butter, mashed bananas, eggs, and vanilla. Stir to incorporate flour mixture (do not overmix). Dividing evenly, spoon batter into muffin cups.
3. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center of a cupcake comes out clean, 25 to 30 minutes. Remove cupcakes from pan: cool completely on a wire rack. Spread tops with Honey-Cinnamon Frosting.
- 4.
- 5.

7.1.1 Honey Cinnamon Frosting

- 1 1/4 cup confectioner's sugar

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1. In a medium bowl, using an electric mixer, beat confectioners' sugar, unsalted butter, honey, and ground cinnamon until smooth, 4 to 5 minutes

7.2 Banana Pudding

- 1 package of instant vanilla pudding
- 2ish (just yellow) bananas
- 3 servings of vanilla wafers
- 1 can of cool whip (whipped cream)

1. Prepare instant pudding according to directions on box
2. Slice bananas
3. Place vanilla wafers in a plastic bag and crush until they are crumbs.
4. Fill the bottom of a cup with pudding, about an inch thick. Sprink some wafer crumbs on top of pudding. Add a layer of banana. Add a thin layer of cool whip. Repeat layers until glass is full. Top off with cool whip.

7.3 Better Than Anything Toffee Recipe

- 1 cup coarsley chopped pecans
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 cup milk chocolate chips

1. Spray a 9-inch square baking dish with cooking spray and line with parchment paper.
2. Spread the chopped pecans in a single layer on top of the parchment.
3. Add butter, sugar, and salt to a heavy bottomed 3 quart pot
4. Bring to a boil over medium low heat, stirring frequently.
5. Once the candy is boiling, stir frequently, slowly and evenly, until the candy has reached 290F to 300F, or "hard crack" on a candy thermometer.
6. Once the candy has reached 290F-300F, remove from heat and gently stir in the vanilla extract.
7. Carefully pour the mixture over the chopped pecans.
8. Let the candy sit for a few minutes, undisturbed, before sprinkling the chocolate chips over the top.
9. Cover the baking dish with foil and let sit for 5 minutes or until the chocolate has softened.
10. Remove the foil and gently spread the softened chocolate into an even layer. An offset spatula works best for this.
11. Place the candy in the refrigerator and let cool completely. Give it at least 2 hours.
12. Lift the parchment out of the baking dish and place the toffee on a cutting board or solid surface.
13. Use a knife to gently break it into smaller pieces.
14. Store in an airtight container in a cool place.

7.4 Cake Pops

- 1 box of cake mix, bakers choice (my favorite is cherry chip)
- 1 container of icing, bakers choice (my favorite is vanilla)
- 1 box of almond bark melting chocolate (my favorite is white chocolate)
- Sprinkles (optional)
- Cake Pop Sticks

1. Bake cake according to directions on box (additional ingredients may be needed to bake cake, such as eggs and/or oils).
2. Let cake cool for about 30 minutes.
3. Once cake is cooled, using hands or food processor, crumble cake into crumbs.
4. Mix half of the icing container with the cake crumbs. If the mixture is still crumbly, add more icing. Mixture should be sticky but not overly moist.
5. Roll tablespoon helping of cake mixture into balls. Place balls on a lined cookie sheet and refrigerate for one hour.
6. Using a chocolate melting pot, warm half of the chocolate. Remove cake balls from refrigerator and place cake pop stick in each ball.
7. Carefully dip cake ball into chocolate, spin stick slowly to make sure all side of pop are covered. Gently tap off extra chocolate back into melting pot. If sprinkles are desired, add right after cake pop is remove from the chocolate.
8. Let all cake pops set for 30 minutes before packaging or moving.
9. Place stick end of cake pop into a foam board for drying.

(Tips: If chocolate is too thick, it will pull the cake ball apart. To thin chocolate mixture, add one teaspoon of crisco at a time and mix chocolate. Repeat this process until the chocolate is a thinner consistency and transfer to cake ball easily.)

7.5 Chocolate Chip Cookie Cheesecake

- 3 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
- 3 eggs
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 (16.5 ounce) rolls refrigerator chocolate chip cookie dough (keep refrigerated until needed)

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. In a large bowl, beat together cream cheese, eggs, sugar, and vanilla extract until well mixed. Set aside.
3. Slice cookie dough rolls in 1/4 inch slices. Arrange slices from one roll on bottom of a greased 9x13 inch glass baking dish; press together so there are no holes in dough. Spoon cream cheese mixture evenly over dough; top with remaining slices of cookie dough.
4. Bake 45 to 50 minutes, or until golden and center is slightly firm.
5. Remove from oven, let cool, then refrigerate. Cut into slices when well chilled.
6. If desired top with ice cream or whipped cream.

7.6 Cranberry Orange Shortbread Cookies

- 1/2 cup dried cranberries (Craisins)
- 3/4 cups sugar, divided
- 2 1/2 cups all purpose flour - spooned and leveled, not scooped
- 1 cup butter, cubed (and cold)
- 1 tsp almond extract
- zest of 1 orange
- 1 to 2 tbsp of fresh orange juice (optional)
- additional sugar to coat cookies before baking if desired

1. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.
2. Combine cranberries and 1/4 cup of sugar in a food processor and process just until the cranberries are broken down into smaller pieces. Set aside.
3. Combine flour and remaining sugar in a large bowl.
4. Use a pastry cutter to cut in butter. You want very fine crumbs.
5. Stir in extract, cranberries and sugar mixture, orange zest and orange juice (optional)
6. Use your hands to knead the dough until it comes together and forms a ball. Work the dough until it comes together.
7. Shape the dough into a log about two inches in diameter and wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate for two hours or up to 72 hours.
8. Preheat oven to 325F.
9. Cut slices of cookie dough about 1/4 inch thick
10. Place about a half a cup of sugar in a bowl and coat the cookie slices with sugar.
11. Place cookies on baking sheet and bake for 12 to 15 minutes or just until cookies are set. *Do not over bake* (I pull mine at 12 minutes).
12. Let cookies cool for several minutes on baking sheet before removing to cooling rack. Let cool completely.
13. Store in airtight container for 3 days or freeze for up to 3 months.

7.7 Crock Pot Candy

- 32 oz. mixed nuts with extra cashews
- 12 oz. semi sweet chocolate chips
- 1 bakers 4 ozs. german chocolate bar
- 32 oz white chocolate chips

1. Put mixed nuts in crockpot.
2. Pour chocolate chips over nuts.
3. Break german chocolate bar over top.
4. Pour white chocolate chips over everything.
5. Cook on low (DO NOT REMOVE LID) for 2 hours.
6. Stir well and drop on waxed paper to cool.

7.8 Dark Molasses Cookies

- 3/4 cup shortening
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 2 cup sifted flour
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 3/4 tsp ginger
- 1/2 tsp ground cloves
- 1/4 tsp salt

1. Combine shortening, sugar, egg, and molasses. Mix thoroughly.
2. Mix in flour, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, ground cloves, and salt.
3. Make batter in small balls of dough using your hands. Roll balls in cinnamon and sugar mixture.
4. On greased baking sheet, bake 10 or 12 minutes at 350 degrees.

7.9 Dutch Apple Pie

- Your favorite homemade pie crusts or 1 ready-made pie crust
- 5 1/2 cups peeled cored sliced cooking apples
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/4 cup brown sugar, packed
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg

(Topping)

- 3/4 cup flour
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1/3 cup butter or 1/3 cup margarine, room temperature

1. Preheat oven to 375 degree F.
2. Fit pie crust into pie plate.
3. In a large bowl, mix sliced apples, lemon juice, both sugars, flour, cinnamon and nutmeg.
4. Pile into crust.
5. Prepare topping: In a medium bowl, with a pastry blender or a fork, mix flour, both sugars, and butter until coarsely crumbled.
6. Sprinkle evenly over apples.
7. Bake at 375 degrees F for 50 minutes

7.10 English Toffee Sandie Cookies [Christmas]

- 1 cup butter, softened (no substitutes)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp almond extract
- 3 1/2 cups flour
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 tsp cream of tartar
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 8-oz package chocolate covered English toffee bits (Heath) - I use the whole 12 oz. pkg
- Additional sugar

1. Cream butter and sugars.
2. Add oil eggs & almond extract. Mix well.
3. Combine flours, baking soda, cream of tartar and salt. Gradually add to creamed mixture.
4. Stir in the toffee bits.
5. Shape into 1 inch balls (bigger is not better with these).
6. Roll in sugar and place on cookie sheet. Flatten with a fork.
7. Bake 350 degrees F for 9 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned (*really* lightly browned)

7.11 Giant Ginger Cookies

- 4 1/2 cups flour
- 1 1/2 cups crisco (don't use margarine or butter)
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup molasses
- 3/4 cup coarse sugar crystals
- 4 tsp ground ginger
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground cloves
- 1/4 salt

1. Combine flour, ginger, soda, cinnamon, cloves, salt. Set aside.
2. Beat shortening till soft. Add sugar and beat until fluffy. Add eggs and molasses. Beat well.
3. Add half of flour mixture, then 2nd half.
4. Shape dough in walnut size (or a little bigger) balls. Roll in coarse sugar. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet
5. At 350 for 12-14 minutes till brown and puffed. DO NOT OVERBAKE or they wont be chewy.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

7.11.1 Chocolate Sauce

1. In saucepan melt $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter, 2 oz. unsweetened chocolate squares, 2 tbsp corn syrup, dash salt.
2. When melted add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk, Bring to a boil stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Add 2 tsp,. vanilla.

7.12 Magnolia's Chocolate Cupcakes

- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 4 large eggs, at room temperature
- 6 ounces unsweetened chocolate, melted (see note)
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Vanilla Buttercream (recipe follows) or Chocolate Buttercream

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Line two 12-cup muffin tins with cupcake papers. Set aside
3. In a small bowl, sift together the flour and baking soda. Set aside.
4. In a large bowl, on the medium speed of an electric mixer, cream the butter until smooth. Add the sugars and beat until fluffy, about 3 minutes. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the chocolate, mixing until well incorporated
5. Add the dry ingredients in three parts, alternating with the buttermilk and vanilla. With each addition, beat until the ingredients are incorporated, but do not overbeat.
6. Using a rubber spatula scrape down the batter in the bowl to make sure the ingredients are well blended and the batter is smooth. Carefully spoon the batter into the cupcake liners, filling them about three-quarters full.
7. Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until a cake tester inserted in the center of the cupcake comes out clean.
8. Cool the cupcakes in the tins for 15 minutes. Remove from the tins and cool completely on a wire rack before icing.
9. Ice the cupcakes either with Vanilla Buttercream or Chocolate Buttercream

(Note: If you would like to make a layer cake instead of cupcakes divide the batter between two 9-inch round cake pans and bake the layers for 30-40 minutes)

7.12.1 Magnolia's Vanilla Buttercream Frosting

- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 6 to 8 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

1. Place the butter in a large mixing bowl. Add 4 cups of the sugar and then the milk and vanilla. On the medium speed of an electric mixer, beat until smooth and creamy, about 3-5 minutes.
2. Gradually add the remaining sugar, 1 cup at a time, beating well after each addition (about 2 minutes), until the icing is thick enough to be of good spreading consistency. You may not need to add all of the sugar.
3. If desired, add a few drops of food coloring and mix thoroughly. (Use and store the icing at room temperature because icing will set if chilled.) Icing can be stored in an airtight container for up to 3 days

(Note: if you are icing a 3-layer cake, use the folloing recipe proportions:

- 1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) unsalted butter
- 8 to 10 cups confectioners' sugar
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract

)

7.12.2 Magnolia's Chocolate Buttercream Frosting

- 1 1/2 cup unsalted butter

- 2 tablespoons mil
- 9 ounces, weight semisweet chocolate, melted and cooled to lukewarm (see note)
- 1 teaspoon Vanilla Extract
- 1 1/4 cups powdered sugar, sifted

1. In a large mixing bowl, beat the butter using an electric mixer on a medium speed for about 3 minutes or until creamy.
2. Add the milk carefully and beat until smooth.
3. Add the melted chocolate and beat well for 2 minutes.
4. Add the vanilla and beat for 3 minutes
5. Gradually add in the sugar and beat on low speed until creamy and of desired consistency. (Yields enough frosting for a 9-inch 2-layer cake or about 2 dozen cupcakes.

(Note: to melt the chocolate, place it in a double boiler over simmering water on low heat for 5-10 minutes. Stir occasionally until the chocolate is completely smooth and no pieces remain. Remove from heat and let cool 5-15 minutes or until lukewarm.)

7.13 Mary Martins's Chocolate Chip Cookies

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup margarine
- 1/3 cup shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 3 3/4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 12 ounces chocolate chips

1. Cream together butter, margarine, shortening and sugars (easiest in an electric mixer).
2. Beat in eggs and vanilla.
3. Stir together in another dish: flour baking soda and salt - add in to creamed mixture a little at a time.
4. Stir in chocolate chips. Form into balls about 1 inch thick and place on large baking sheet.
5. Bake at 375 degrees F for 8-10 minutes (yields 4 dozen).

7.14 Old-Fashioned Pecan Pie

- Your favorite 9" single pie crust, prepared
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 1/8 cups light brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla-butternut flavor, optional
- 6 tablespoons milk
- 3 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons vinegar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups pecans, diced and whole

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Roll out the pastry and place it in a greased 9" pie plate. Flute the edges decoratively.
2. Melt the butter and set it aside to cool.
3. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, sugar, and salt.
4. Add the milk and eggs and beat well.
5. Stir in the vinegar, vanilla, and flavoring, if using, then the butter and nuts.
6. Pour the mixture into the crust and bake for 45 to 50 minutes, until the filling is set most of the way to the center, with a 1 1/2" "puddle" that's still jiggly in the center.
7. Remove from the oven (the pie will finish setting up as it sits) and cool completely before slicing. (yield: 1 pie, 12 servings)

7.15 Orange Pecan Crunch [Christmas]

- 1 1/2 cups pecan halves
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 1 1/2 tsp finely grated orange peel

1. Line a cookie sheet with foil. Butter it. Set pan aside.
2. In a heavy skillet combine pecan halves, sugar, butter, and vanilla. Cook over medium-high heat, shaking skillet occasionally. DO NOT STIR.
3. When sugar begins to melt, reduce heat to low. Cook, stirring frequently til sugar is golden brown.
4. Quickly stir in orange peel. Immediately spread onto the prepared baking sheet. Cool. Break into bite sized pieces.

7.16 Pudding & Cream Cheese Mystery Desert

- 2 cup flour
- 1 cup Butter
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 9 oz cool whip
- 8 oz cream cheese
- 2/3 cup powdered sugar
- 2 packages chocolate instant Pudding
- cool whip (as a topping)

1. Bake flour, butter, and walnuts at 350 degrees 15minutes on 9x13 inch pan. Let cool
2. Mix 9 oz cool whip, cream cheese and powdered sugar together. Layer mixture on top of bottom crumble.
3. Make chocolate pudding according to instructions on package. Layer pudding on top of previous layer in pan.
4. Layer cool whip as final layer on pan.

7.17 Rhubarb Pie

- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tsp cornstarch (I usually add a little more)
- 1 small package of raspberry jello
- 2 1/2 cups cut rhubarb (extra rhubarb doesn't hurt, it's a two crust pie)

1. Mix sugar, cornstarch, and raspberry jello.
2. Add mix to rhubarb.
3. Bake 15 min at 400, reduce to 350 and bake until brown.

7.18 Rice Pudding [Christmas]

- 1 cup white rice.
- approx. 2 cups water
- 1 quart milk
- 1 can evaporated milk
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 beaten eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- Raisins to taste
- pinch of cinnamon

1. Cook rice according to packaging directions.
2. Add milk and evaporated milk to rice in a pot. Bring to a boil stirring often. Add sugar, stir, and boil *slowly* for about 20 minutes stirring constantly.
3. Beat eggs in a separate bowl and slowly add a tbsp or two of the rice mixture at a time to the eggs, stirring well after each addition, until you've added about 1 cup of rice mixture to the eggs and both are mixed together well.
4. Mix egg/rice mixture into the original pot with the rest of the heated rice mixture. Boil an additional 4 or 5 minutes stirring slowly.
5. Remove from heat, add vanilla extract and raisins. Mix well. Sprinkle cinnamon on top. Chill for a few hours till quite cool.

7.19 Saltine Cracker Candy [Christmas]

- 1 tube of saltines (40 crackers +)
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter (either salted or unsalted; do not use margarine)
- 1 cup + 2 tbsp firmly packed brown sugar
- 2 cups chocolate chips (I like semi-sweet)
- 1/2 to 3/4 cup toasted chopped pecans (or toasted chopped almonds)

(If using a large cookie sheet, multiply recipe by 1.5)

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line cookie sheet with foil & spray with non-stick cooking spray.
2. Line crackers end to end on sheet, breaking crackers to fit the end if necessary.
3. In a medium saucepan, melt butter on low heat. Once melted, add brown sugar and turn heat to medium.
4. Continue stirring until boiling - then boil for 3 minutes (set timer).
5. Pour over crackers, spread evenly working quickly.
6. Put sheet in oven - bake for 5 minutes.
7. remove -pour chocolate chips over top - place a sheet of foil over and let melt for 3 minutes.
8. Spread melted chocolate over the top evenly. Add nuts to top - replace foil and refrigerate until set (can be frozen).

7.20 Shortbread Cookies [Christmas]

- 1 lb butter
- 3 cups sifted flour
- 1/2 cup corn starch
- 1 cup sifted powdered sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla

1. Cream butter well
2. Add flour, corn starch, sugar and vanilla, beat till mixture is like whipped cream (can take quite a while).
3. Cook on greased cookie sheet for 12 minutes at 350 degrees F.

7.21 Tom Dennis Master Custard Ice Cream Recipe

- 2 cups whole milk
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 egg yolks
- pinch of salt
- 2 cups of 1/2&1/2 (milk and cream base, non-alcoholic)
- 2 cups Cream
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract

1. In pan whisk milk, sugar, egg yolks, and salt on medium heat until mixture simmers.
2. Lower heat, whisk 5 minutes till mixture thickens.
3. Strain into a bowl and whisk in 1/2&1/2, cream, and vanilla.
4. Churn in an ice cream machine according to manufacturer's instructions. Serve directly from machine for soft serve, or store in freezer till needed

(The following flavors can create thicker custard than usual, be aware that manual churning may be required if the ice cream machine is not powerful enough. Alternatively, one can flip the ratio of milk to cream base to the following alternate measurements to thin the recipe as provided in each flavor.)

7.21.1 Almond Flavor

- alternate: 3 cups whole milk
- alternate: 1 1/2 cups of 1/2&1/2 (milk and cream base, non-alcoholic)
- alternate: 1 1/2 cups Cream
- 1 cup sugar

- 4 egg yolks
- pinch of salt
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds
- 1 cup sliced almonds
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- pinch of salt

1. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, cook 1/2 cup almonds with 2 tablespoons of sugar and a pinch of salt until deeply golden and caramelized (approx. 10 minutes). Transfer to a plate and set aside.
2. In the same pot, toast 1 cup sliced almonds until deeply golden (approx. 5 minutes). Proceed with base recipe in the same pot. Let custard steep off the heat for 1 hour before straining.
3. Mix in the sweetened caramelized almonds. Chill.

7.21.2 Pistachio Flavor

- alternate: 4 cups whole milk
- alternate: 1 cup of 1/2&1/2 (milk and cream base, non-alcoholic)
- alternate: 1 cups Cream
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 egg yolks
- pinch of salt
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 cup pistachio paste
- 1/4 teaspoon almond extract

1. Make the base ice cream. Whisk pistachio paste and almond extract into warm strained base. Chill

7.21.3 Peanut Butter Flavor

- alternate: 4 cups whole milk
- alternate: 1 cups of 1/2&1/2 (milk and cream base, non-alcoholic)
- alternate: 1 cups Cream
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 egg yolks
- pinch of salt
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 cup natural smooth peanut butter
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. Make the base ice cream. Whicks peanut butter and 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract into warm, strained base. Chill.

7.21.4 Coconut Flavor

- alternate: 2 cups whole milk
- alternate: 1 cups of 1/2&1/2 (milk and cream base, non-alcoholic)
- alternate: 1 cups Cream
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 egg yolks
- pinch of salt
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 cup coconut milk

- 1/2 cup sweetened shredded coconut
- 1 cup shredded unsweetened coconut

1. In a medium sacuepan, toast sweetened shredded coconut until deeply golden, about 5 minutes. Tansfer to a plate and set aside.
2. In the same pot, toast shredded unsweetened coconut until deeply golden, approx. 5 minutes. Proceed with base recipe in the same pot. Let custart steep off the heat for 1 hour befor straining.
3. Mix in the cooked sweetened shredded coconut. Chill.

8 Drinks

8.1 German Mulled Wine [Christmas]

- 2 medium lemons
- 2 medium oranges
- 10 whole cloves
- 5 cardamon pods
- 1 1/4 cups granulated sugar
- 1 1/4 cups water
- 2 (3-inch) cinnamon sticks
- 2 (750-milliliter) bottles of dry red wine, such as Cabernet Sauvignon or Beajolais Nouveau
- 1/2 cup brandy
- Cheesecloth
- Butcher's twine

1. Using a vegetable peeler, remove the zest from the lemons and oranges in wide strips, avoiding the white pith; place the zest in a large saucepan. Juice the lemons and oranges and add the juice to the pan. Place the cloves and cardamom in a small piece of cheesecloth, tie it tightly with butchers twine, and add the bundle to the saucepan.
2. Add the sugar, water, and cinnamon sticks, place the pan over high heat, and bring to a simmer, stirring to dissolve the sugar. Reduce the heat to low and continue to simmer, stirring occasionally, until the mixture is reduced by about one-third, about 20 minutes.
3. Add the red wine and brandy, stir to combine, and bring just to a simmer (dont let it boil). Remove from the heat and remove and discard the spice bundle before serving.

8.2 Nicole's Hard Eggnog

- 5 eggs (yolks separated from the whites)
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 tsp sugar
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 cups milk (whole or 2%)
- Whisky/Burbon/etc to taste (approx. 2 shots)
- Nutmeg and cinnamon to taste

1. In a large bowl whisk the egg yolks until the color becomes lighter.
2. Add 1/3 cup sugar slowly. Blend together until sugar is dissolved.
3. Add Cream, Milk, Alcohol and stir together. Add Nutmeg and Cinnamon to taste.
4. In a second bowl whisk egg whites with 2 tsp of sugar until peaks form.
5. Stir/Fold Egg whites into the first bowl.
6. Chill and serve.

8.3 Old Fashioned Cocktail

- 4 dashes Angostura bitters
- 1 tsp sugar
- 1 orange wheel
- 1 maraschino cherry
- 1 splash club soda
- 2 oz bourbon

(Garnish)

- 1 fresh orange wheel
- 1 cherry

1. In an old fashioned drinking glass, muddle the bitters, sugar, orange wheel, cherry and a splash of soda.
2. Remove the orange rind, add the bourbon and fill with ice.
3. Garnish with a fresh orange wheel and cherry.