

Get wired for cyberspace gathering



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For most of us 40 something (and up) - computers are not a comfortable tool. My highest form of technology was an 8-track tape deck (now there's an antique!) that sat proudly on the front seat of my parents car, ready to be loaded with

the newest Lovin Spoonful's tape.

The kids of today, not only know how to easily use computers, the worldwide Internet is only a phone call and a 4-digit security code away. Of course not all adults are as computer challenged as I am. Internet, Cyberspace and Websites are everyday typical language - and why not jump on the proverbial computer bandwagon - it's fascinating!

The BIG Surf Cyber Cafe is a good indication of what is to come - located in downtown Birmingham, this cafe

doesn't serve up the finest cuisine to be had (although you can carry in food, have a great cup of joe and add a delicious "sweet" to your tab), what they are serving up is a delightful environment equipped with state of the art computers (12 computers - Macs and Pentium pc's) with the ability to surf the net with high speed digital connections. This spot is great for meetings, parties, lunch or an evening of entertainment (on site-trainers available for assistance) - seats 40 comfortably. What a great spot to have a party - food can be catered in - no on site cooking. The BIG Surf Cyber Cafe is at 750 South Woodward. Call (810) 433-3135.

You can also plan an Internet party at home - invitations could go to your guests by E-mail! Make sure you have enough computers to provide for each guest, or each couple - perhaps your guest list should include those that have their own lap top computer, and are already ON-LINE. You may want to even use "food" as your theme - there is plenty on the Internet in that area - even

a series of food chat rooms. Plan your menu accordingly - have your foods easy, non-messy things to eat, you want to keep those keyboards debris free! Keep in mind, this event doesn't need to be dinner, it could just be a good spotted bun and coffee.

Try these Cyberspace goodies:

MYSTERY PUFF SANDWICHES

2/3 cup of all purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup water
5 1/3 tablespoons butter
4 large or extra large eggs
Non-stick cooking spray
In a small glass bowl, combine the flour and the salt.

In a large saucepan, bring the water and the butter to a rolling boil. As soon as the water reaches that rolling boil, add all of the flour-salt mixture - and mix well and steady with a wooden spoon. When the mixture pulls away from the saucepan and forms a ball (this should take approximately one minute), remove the dough mixture from the saucepan onto a cutting board to cool down.

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F.

When the saucepan has cooled down, replace the dough - add 3 eggs, one at a time - beating well after each addition. With the fourth egg, break it into a cup, and beat it with a fork. Add this egg a teaspoon at a time until the dough mixture is to the consistency, that it will drop from a spoon.

Drop the dough mixture by full-tablespoons (medium sized mounds) onto a lightly sprayed cookie sheet - keep 1 1/2 inches apart.

Bake for 20 minutes, or until golden brown - remove from the oven and pierce each puff with a small sharp knife (to release the steam). Turn off your oven - return the puffs to the oven for 10 minutes.

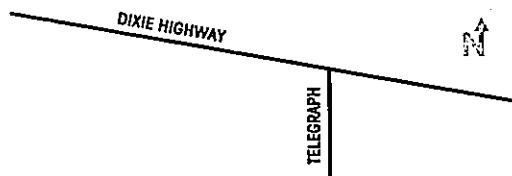
Remove the completed puffs from the oven - let cool down.

For the filling:

The filling can be anything from simple tuna salad to a curried fish pate. Chicken-salad, egg salad laden with green olives, turkey salad, ham salad, a soft cheese laden

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SEARCHING FOR HIDDEN TREASURES THIS WEEKEND? HERE'S YOUR MAP.



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