

# Burn potatoes? New cook book lists other ideas

By JEANNE WHITTAKER

Whenever I see a newly produced cook book I am reminded of how many people there are who quite regularly stumble over the simplest rules of food preparation.

Trust us to boil away the water before the rice can be added, or leave it to us to bake the potatoes to a sooty crisp.

Fortunately, for both the novice cook and experienced chefs, the Holy Name Church Woman's Council has spent the past three years preparing in cook book form a banquet of tasty foods that will help anyone look like an expert in the kitchen.

The book is titled "Holy Name Woman's Council Recipes," which is

not a very original name for 355 pages of kitchen tested contributions the council members have collected from among themselves and their friends.

There are also individual contributions from many of the area's best known restaurants, including Bedell's Bananas Maison Plante (for two), and Charley's Chowder from—where else?—Charley's Crab.

The council has also added a number of convenient and helpful features, including a plastic cover for easy care, a discussion of wines, and color coded chapters to coincide with the seasons.

ACCORDING TO co-chairperson Marcia Tournay, each council member put in a minimum of three hours per week over a three year

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—Marcia Tournay,  
cook book co-chairwoman

period to collect, sample and categorize the extensive collection of recipes. Included is everything from the usual to the extremely unusual, with indexes for each section and an easy reference directory at the end of the book. Each recipe is also accompanied by the name of its donor.

NO MEMBER of the family has been ignored. Mrs. Tournay explained. That also includes kids, for whom there is a recipe for home made dog biscuits.

"Every recipe was tried and tested and clarified," said Mrs. Tournay. "If someone said that the recipe called for a package of corn chips, we made her tell us what size package or how many corn chips. We also checked to make sure that the recipes are published in the right sequence of ingredients."

Much of the credit for the accuracy of the recipes goes to home economist Toni Bettisworth, a former food editor with the Detroit Free Press. Mrs. Bettisworth is the recipe editor for the cook book.

Advice on wine is delivered by Dr. Robert Clark, who notes, "While it is true there are well-founded general rules—light before heavy and dry before sweet—the final blending of a wine with a food can, and should, be a very individual choice based on continuing experience and trial."

In addition to the Bettisworth and Clark contributions, individual chairpersons, Ellen Potter, Hilary Callaghan, Sarah Koval, and Sara Paterson, were responsible for compiling the book according to the seasons.

Not content to be a co-chairperson with Betty Stephenson, Mrs. Tournay has also created dozens of attractive sketches to illustrate the book.

The initial printing of 1,000 editions went on sale for \$8.50 per book following Thanksgiving at the church's annual antique sale. The council, said Mrs. Tournay, hopes that sales will take the book into a second printing, which will enhance the contributions

the council is able to make to area charitable and community agencies. The books may be ordered through Jo Ann Baughman, president of the

Woman's Council, at 642-8720. Each book also includes order blanks which may be completed and returned to 645 Woodland Ave., Birmingham, 48009.

## Kids call Santa in his workshop

About 600 local boys and girls had the opportunity this year to speak with that jolly bearded man in the red suit who lives at the North Pole, thanks to the Farmington Hills Recreation Department.

In its third year, the Santa Claus call-in lines at 478-TOYS were buzzing last week with the chatter of tots putting in last minute requests for Christmas.

Publicity for the special holiday event was minimal so that local youngsters received top priority instead of busy signals.

"WE ADVERTISED in the Observer and the message was spread by word of mouth in the schools," said Jeff Farland, recreation superintendent. "This is the third year we've had the Santa phone lines. It's a good, fun program."

The majority of children who talked to Santa between the ages of 5 and 8. But Farland said calls ran the gamut from youngsters too young to speak to teenagers calling for kicks.

"They asked for the normal range of toys, with an emphasis on Star Trek, Star Wars and computer games," Farland said. "Sometimes Dad would get on the phone and ask Santa for Farah Fawcett, or Mom would ask for a new dishwasher or a car."

SANTA'S CALLS were skillfully

intercepted by senior citizen men who took active part in the Recreation-sponsored senior adult program at the Mercy Conference Center.

Santa's stand-in, who took calls last Monday through Friday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., were prepped beforehand on vital information—like the names of Santa's reindeer and elves. Non-believers like to know that the phone Santa has some credibility.

Farland said it is also important that the Santa not promise to deliver certain gifts or push commercial products.

"Frequently, Santa would get on the line with a child and when the list of 30 toys was read, the phone would be passed on to four or five more kids in the family. The 15-year-old would have to talk to Santa to reaffirm his belief to the 4-year-old."

While many squealed with delight during their conversations with Santa, others remained entrenched in disbelief.

"They would ask to speak to Mrs. Claus, or one of the elves. Or they'd want to know if the call was made from the North Pole. After listening to a long speech about Christmas, one kid said he was Jewish. So Santa wished him a Happy Hanukkah."

Those who missed a call to Santa this year need not fret. He'll be back on the Farmington phone lines again next Christmas.

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## Class set

Several local businessmen have been slated as guest speakers for the personal finance class which will be offered winter semester at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College.

The course will meet on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning Jan. 8 and continuing for fifteen weeks. Tuition and fees for area residents is \$18.

Speakers include Harold Greenblatt, manager of American United Life Insurance; Dr. Jeffery Barry, president of Walsh College; and Phimore Leemon, attorney and banker.

Course coordinator and lecturer, Professor Gary Bronstein, may be called at 476-9400.

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