

Appetizers Make Party Festive

BY ELLY

Festive entertaining highlights the days and evenings from now to January.

Attractive and tasty appetizers help a hostess initiate party proceedings and will keep the holiday crowd mixing happily.

For interest and eye appeal serve an assortment of appetizers of different shapes and types, some hot and others cold.

Today's recipes are all for hot canapes. Next week we'll have cold dips and hors d'oeuvres.

BEUF TERIYAKI

Strips of tender beef sirloin marinated in teriyaki sauce provide most tasty nibbling.

1 sirloin steak, cut 1 1/2 inch thick
2 t. ground ginger
2 t. sugar
2 cloves garlic, minced
1/2 c. soy sauce

Cut steak into three-inch strips. Combine ground ginger, sugar, garlic and soy sauce. Pour over steak strips. Cover tightly and refrigerate six hours. Place strips on baking sheet. Bake at 450 degrees for eight to 10 minutes or broil until browned. Yield: three to four dozen strips.

HAM MUSHROOM PUFFS

Hot mushroom canapes sport a puffy topping of deviled ham and cream cheese disappear early from the appetizer tray.

1 can (2 1/4 ounces) deviled ham
24 circles of bread, 1-1/2 inches in diameter
24 fresh mushrooms
2 T. bacon drippings
1 pkg. (3 ounces) cream cheese
1 egg yolk
Dash onion powder

Toast circles of bread on one side in oven broiler. Cut stems from mushrooms and cook caps slowly in bacon drippings until lightly browned and tender. Beat together deviled ham, cream cheese, egg yolk and onion powder until light and blended. Arrange a mushroom on each bread circle. Place a spoonful of the ham and cheese mixture over each, covering completely. Place in a moderate oven, 350 degrees, until lightly browned, five to seven minutes. Serve hot. Yields 24 canapes.

MUSHROOM LOGS

2 T. butter
1 c. fresh mushrooms, finely chopped
1 whole green onion, minced
1 1/4 t. dried tarragon
1 T. cornstarch
1 1/2 t. salt
1 1/4 c. rich cream
1 1/4 c. dry sherry
16 slices bread, thinly sliced

Melt the butter and add the mushrooms, green onions and tarragon. Cook over medium heat for three minutes, stirring most of the time. Remove the pan from the heat, add the cornstarch and salt and stir until well mixed. Add the cream and sherry and cook stirring constantly until thick and creamy. Remove crust from the bread and butter slices lightly. Spread with the mushroom mixture. Roll as you would for jelly roll, and as tightly as possible. Hold with a wooden pick and place logs side by side in a cake pan. Bake at 500 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve hot. These freeze very well uncooked. Don't thaw them out, just bake as above.

HOT DEVILED HAM DIP
1 1/2 - ounce can deviled ham
1 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
1 t. Worcestershire sauce
Few dashes tabasco
2 T. milk
Toasted slivered almonds
Avocado chunks

Thoroughly combine first four ingredients. Gradually add milk stirring until smooth. Place in oven-proof dish or pot, in a preheated moderate oven, 350 degrees, until hot and bubbling. Sprinkle with almonds. Serve as a dip for avocado chunks, potato chips, crackers or pitted dates. Makes two cups dip.

DELICATESSEN SPECIAL SANDWICH
2 slices corned beef or ham
2 slices Swiss cheese
Chilled sauerkraut
Spread each slice of bread with butter and mustard. Put one slice of meat and cheese on bread; top with sauerkraut, more meat, and cheese, and second slice of bread.

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