



appliance doctor

Disposer won't handle rib tickler



JOE GAGNON

A few days ago I went out to dinner with Valerie and Hollie, her daughter who is home from Michigan State for the Christmas break.

We dined at the Ginnoplis restaurant which is so well known in the area for its ribs and special sauce. I understand that when Elizabeth Taylor comes to Detroit, she eats there as well and has a box of ribs put on the plane to take home with her. I figure, well if the ribs are that good, I'll take some home with me, too, and cook them up again the next day.

Next day - We just enjoyed a light dinner each sharing the leftover ribs, and it was my turn to clean up the table, the counter area and load the dishwasher. Both Val and Hollie were still sitting at the kitchen table when I put into the

garbage disposal the bones from the ribs and turned it on. If only you could have seen the look on Valerie's face when I turned on the Garbaretor. The noise of this thing made her eyes look like 50 cent pieces. Hollie was laughing her head off, as pieces of bone were flying all over the kitchen sink, even as high as hitting the ceiling.

Well, anything for a laugh, and I went about finishing my cleaning job. I turned on the hot water faucet because I was about to turn on the dishwasher, and we all know from previous columns that this is the proper method for getting clean dishes from a dishwasher. Lo, and behold, the sink was plugged, or worse yet, both sinks were plugged and what that meant to me was that the complete drain line which leaves the kitchen was plugged.

"Not so funny now is it Joey," I heard Valerie say as she retired to the sofa with the newspaper. Hollie was still laughing her head off when suddenly Val joined her. They were both laughing

and I was about to cry because I've had to unclog that blinking drain line before, and it's no fun.

I went to the garage and got the garden hose which was as stiff as a board because it was cold out there. I took it down stairs and hooked it up to the hot water faucet on the laundry sink. I disconnected the plumbing under the sink and stuck the hose down inside the drain line and turned on the water. Job well done after an hour spent playing plumber.

I sat down beside Val and took a piece of the paper and after a few minutes I gently asked her why she didn't help me. With a little smile on her face, she said, "Joe, how many times have I plugged up the drain line by putting in potato peelings etc. which you tell me not to do. Each time I've done so I have felt so terrible for my stupidity that I have had no choice but to help you. This time I couldn't help you because I've been sitting here reading the paper for an hour and I haven't gone past page

one. I've been laughing so hard that it's been impossible for me to stand beside you. I love you."

Whatever happened to the old days? I used to have a Maytag disposer in which you could put a handful of nails and they would come out as dust. I once took a whole turkey carcass and broke it up and ground it up in my old Maytag. That disposer would chew up anything and everything and a senior vice president of Maytag once told me, "It's the best product we've ever made." I could sure use one today to play my little jokes in the kitchen but the moral of this story is - Maytag quit making the disposer just three years ago and I'm stuck with this piece of uselessness which doesn't work worth prunes. Can't even play a joke today because they don't make them like they used to.

Joe Gagnon, the Appliance Doctor, will answer your questions about maintaining and repairing large appliances.



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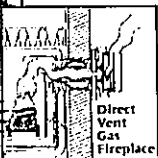
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