

Betty Crocker Cookbook, 13th Edition: Everything You Need to Know to Cook Today

By Betty Crocker (Harvest Publications) \$32.50

The cookbook that generations trust is fully updated and revised, everything radically refreshed with busy families in mind, and in a durable, lay-flat format. You'll find 1,300-plus recipes covering every mode of cooking, gluten-free and vegan recipes and full nutritional information. Perfect for any cooking level, this foundational tome covers basic kitchen tools and staples, plus charts for cooking times and storage, measurement conversions, and creative inspirations.

Go-To Dinners: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook

By Ina Garten (Clarkson Potter) \$35

Cooking during the pandemic inspired Ina to rethink the way she approached dinner, and the result is this collection of uncomplicated, comforting, and delicious recipes. You'll find many freeze-ahead, make-ahead, and simply assembled recipes that make dinner a breeze. Ina guides you on turning leftovers into something deliciously different. She shares her favorites to serve with store-bought ingredients. Finally, there are plenty of prep-ahead and easy sweets that everyone will rave about.

The Complete Cookbook for Young Chefs: 100+ Recipes That You'll Love to Cook and EatBy America's Test Kitchen Kids (Sourcebooks) \$19.99
Best-seller and IACP Award Winner, America's Test Kitchen brings its scientific know-how, rigor-

ous testing, and hands-on learning in creating the cookbook every kid chef needs. Recipes for breakfasts, snacks, beverages, dinners, desserts, and more were thoroughly tested by more than 750 kids to get them just right for all skill levels. Step-by-step photos of tips and techniques help young chefs feel like pros.

Good Housekeeping Dishes for Two: 125 Easy Small-Batch Recipes for Weeknight Meals & Special Celebrations

By Good Housekeeping (Hearst Home) \$30

Make delicious meals for one or two with 125 simple and satisfying easy recipes. The experts take the guesswork out of small-batch cooking and share their favorite weeknight meals. You'll also find secrets on how to downsize any recipe; cooking techniques; clever shopping strategies and storage tricks; recipes for occasions such as date night, anniversaries, and holidays; and more.

What's for Dessert: Simple Recipes for Dessert People

By Claire Saffitz (Clarkson Potter) \$37.50

Claire Saffitz returns with an all-new collection of 100 dessert recipes for icebox cakes, pies, cobblers, custards, cookies, and more, all crafted to be straightforward, simple, and streamlined. Fans will find all the warmth, encouragement, and foolproof recipes with loads of troubleshooting advice that they've come to count on from Claire.

Dinner in One: Exceptional & Easy One-Pan Meals

By Melissa Clark (Pamela Dorman Books) \$28

Melissa Clark brings her expertise and no-fuss approach to one-pot/pan cooking, with streamlined steps to ensure you are in and out of the kitchen with as little cleanup as possible. Expect to find a bevy of sheet-pan suppers, skillet dinners, Instant Pot pinch hitters, comforting casseroles, crowd-pleasing pasta meals, vegetable-forward mains, and tips for turning recipes vegan.

The Art of the Board: Fun & Fancy Snack Boards, Recipes & Ideas for Entertaining All Year

By Olivia Carney (Gibbs Smith) \$27.99

With Olivia Carney's friendly guidance, and over 75 seasonally inspired boards, recipes, and cocktails, you'll find all you need for fun, stress-free entertaining year-round. The introduction walks you through equipment and ingredients, and the appendix covers everything from board care to how to bring your skills to the next level. There are even suggestions to make your boards travel friendly. And since each board is labeled with difficulty level, approximate cost, and dietary accommodations, you'll always find a showstopper to fit your lifestyle and budget.

Until next month, happy reading.

The staff at Covered Treasures can be reached at books@ocn.me.

January Library Events

Explore the resources at your library

By Harriet Halbig

As we start a new year, come to the library or check online at ppld.org to see some of the resources available.

If you click on *Research* on the home page and open the list of data bases, you'll find such possibilities as language instruction through *Mango*, genealogy resources, and such consumer resources as *Consumer Reports*. There are also a number of foreign language newspapers and magazines.

Under *Find a Good Book*, you can enter the title of a favorite book and see others which are similar in characters or plot. You can also see listings of all books in a given series.

In the coming year, children's programs will remain on the same schedule with *Toddler Time* at 9:30 and 10 on Wednesdays in Monument and *Story Time* on Tuesdays at 10:30. There are two adult book clubs, one in the morning and one in the evening.

In Palmer Lake there is an adult book club which meets the first Monday of each month. *Family Story Time* is on Fridays at 10:30.

Check at the front desk for *Take and Make* kits for children or adults and check the website under Programs by location to see offerings for children, homeschoolers, teens, and adults.

We hope to see you soon at the library.

Harriet Halbig may be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me

Palmer Lake Historical Society, Dec. 11

89th Annual Yule Log Hunt

By Marlene Brown

Continuing a long tradition, the Town of Palmer Lake held the 89th Annual Yule Log Hunt on Dec. 11 at the remodeled Town Hall. The Yule Log celebration was brought to Palmer Lake by Lucretia Vaile and Miss Evalena in 1933. Fifty people wearing red and green capes went on the hunt for a hidden log. The first yule log was found by C.R. Hays. He then rode the log back to town pulled by the other searchers. They were greeted by 200 cheering residents and visitors. As tradition held, half of the log was burned and the other half was saved for the next year. See palmerdividehistory.org for more stories.

This year's Yule Log Finder was David Leidenberger. It was the fifth time a member of his family has discovered the log. Children in the hunt get to take turns riding on the 8-foot log as it was pulled back to town. The original two-man saw that was used in 1933 is then used to cut the log in half. Shown in the photo is Leidenberger carrying half of log to be burned in the fireplace at the Town Hall and the other half to be saved for next year.

After traditional Christmas songs are sung in the Town Hall, the first drink of the wassail is served to the finder of the log, and then all the guests partake in a cup of wassail.

The recipe for wassail to make at home: two quarts of apple cider, one finely chopped lemon, one finely chopped orange, 1/4 teaspoon of ground cloves, 1/4 teaspoon of nutmeg, two baked apples, 1/2 teaspoon of finely chopped cinnamon bark, and 1/2 to 1 cup of sugar (to taste). Heat cider and spices to boiling, add finely chopped fruit, and serve hot.

The Town of Palmer Lake has supported many of the events for the holiday season, including the

Star Lighting, the Town Tree Lighting, Potluck for Yule Log Hunt, and the Palmer Lake Holiday Light Contest.

The Palmer Lake Yule Log Association is responsible for continuing the tradition of Yule Log Hunt. See its Facebook page, Palmer Lake Yule Log, for more information.

The next meeting of the Palmer Lake Historical Society will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 19 at the Palmer Lake Town Hall, when the group holds its Annual Potluck and Membership meeting. A brief business meeting will include election of 2023 officers and a 30-minute film on the settlement of the Palmer Divide. The meeting is open to the public.

Marlene Brown can be reached by email at malenebrown@ocn.me.

Above: David Leidenberger, this year's Yule Log Finder, carries half of the Yule Log on Dec. 11 in the Palmer Lake Town Hall. Photo by Marlene Brown.