

Reader Recipes

We're looking for unusual, innovative, or just plain good-tasting recipes. If you have a favorite you'd like to share, send to: Reader Recipes, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044.

Chocolate Cake In A Mug

4 tbsp cake flour (plain, not self-rising)
4 tbsp sugar
2 tbsp cocoa
1 egg
3 tbsp milk
3 tbsp vegetable oil
Small splash vanilla
3 tbsp chocolate chips

Add dry ingredients to a large coffee mug, mix well. Add egg, mix thoroughly. Pour in milk, oil, vanilla and chocolate chips. Cook for about three minutes on high in microwave. Cake will rise over top of mug. Allow to cool a little before eating.

Peas & Peanut Salad

1 10-oz. package of frozen peas
1 cup Spanish peanuts
1/2 cup sour cream
2 tbsp Miracle Whip
1/4 cup bacon bits
1/4 cup chopped onion
1/2 tsp salt

After thawing peas, mix all ingredients together and chill. Serve over lettuce leaves or put in a bowl and decorate with more bacon bits on top.

Linda Gall,
Royalton, Minn.

Easy Garlic Bread

1/4 cup melted butter
1 beaten egg
1/4 tsp salt
1/2 tsp garlic powder
Mix and beat the four ingredients together. Brush over French bread and bake at 375° until golden brown.

Darin Bartholomaus,
Mora, Minn.

Cheap General Purpose Cleaner

1 tsp borax
1/2 tsp washing soda (found in laundry aisle)
2 tsp vinegar
1/4 tsp dishwashing liquid
2 cups hot water

Combine all ingredients. For a more pleasant smell, use lemon juice instead of vinegar. Put in a small spray bottle.

Her Laundry Detergent Is Cheap And "Green"

By Nancy Leasman

The Sisters of St. Francis at their convent in Little Falls, Minnesota, believe it's important to, "...walk gently in the world and actively encourage others to walk with us." The sisters host an annual Green Fair with music, food, and booths that exhibit earth friendly wares.

Sister Clara Stang does her part dressing as Saint Clare of Assisi. In her white and brown "habit", Saint Clare promotes the use of an earth friendly laundry detergent which also happens to be very economical. Using common products found at most grocery and hardware stores, Saint Clare's formula results in clean clothes for only about five cents per load.

"Green" laundry detergent

13 Cups of hot tap water
4 Tablespoons of Arm & Hammer washing soda (not baking soda!)
2 Tablespoons of Borax
1 ounce of castile soap
Few drops essential oil for scent (optional)

Do You Know What Day It Is?

The idea of making a clock that points to the day instead of the time came to two retired friends sitting around a campfire in Nevada's Black Rock Desert having a few beers. The men realized "What day is it?" had become more important to them than "What time is it?"

Apparently many active retirees have the same problem. Since patenting the idea and finding a manufacturer, Mark Pierce and John Kallestad have been busy shipping day clocks all over the U.S., Canada and overseas.

"It's very functional," Kallestad says. "People give it as a joke gift, but people find that they start to depend on it."

The clocks are divided in seven segments for each day of the week, and one hand moves around according to the day. Time can be roughly estimated. It's about noon, for example, when the arrow is in the center of a segment.

The clocks are especially good gifts for people who live alone or are in nursing homes.

Since their first design, the partners have expanded to five models, including two that also include the time. Day clocks sell for \$39.95; models with the time cost \$49.95. They come in wood and contemporary styles. A rugged outdoor model sells for \$155.

Clocks are available through the Day Clocks website and in half a dozen catalogs. Kallestad welcomes inquiries from catalog companies.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Day Clocks Inc., 892 Maestro Dr., Suite 102, Reno, Nevada 89511 (ph 866 329-2562; info@dayclocks.com; www.dayclocks.com).

He Plants His Garden With PVC Pipe

When Ellis Clark plants his garden, it looks more like he's planning a home improvement project. He wears a carpenter's apron and carries a 4-ft. long piece of 1-in. dia. pvc pipe.

"Necessity is the mother of invention," says the Janesville, Wis., man. His back bothered him one year at planting time, and he couldn't bend over so he grabbed a length of 1-in. pvc pipe and his onion sets.

"Push the pipe down a little past the depth you want and drop in the onion," Clark says. "The thing I like is that when you lift the pipe the dirt covers the onion up."

He carries the onion sets in the carpenter's apron. The idea worked so well with onions that he used a smaller pipe to plant hills of squash and pumpkins. The method should work with any seed, he says, as long as the ground has been tilled.

"Now I use it all the time," Clark says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ellis Clark, 5637 W. Fenrick Rd., Janesville, Wis. 53548.



Sister Clara Stang promotes the use of an earth friendly laundry detergent that makes use of common products.

Pour the hot water into an empty 1-gal. milk or laundry detergent jug. Then add all ingredients. Shake to mix. Use 1/2 cup for a small laundry load, or 1 cup for a large load.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup: Sister Clara Stang, OSF, St. Francis Center, 116 8th Ave. S.E., Little Falls, Minn. 56345 (ph 320 632-2981; cstang@fslf.org).



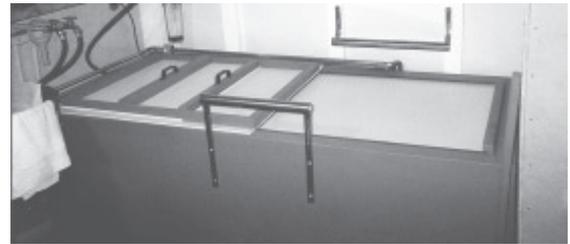
Clock is divided in seven segments for each day of the week.



A second model shows both the time and the day.

FARM SHOW®

New Products Especially For Women And The Farm, Ranch Home



At 6 ft. 4 in. long by 3 1/2 ft. wide, bathtub is big enough to stretch out.

Insulated "Giant" Bathtub Stays Hot For Hours

Taking a bath is a totally relaxing experience for Ken Voigt, who made his own giant "bells and whistles" bathtub that lets him lay down and stretch out full length.

"There's nothing I hate more than being cramped up in a bathtub and not being able to stretch out. My bathtub is 6 ft. 4 in. long by 3 1/2 ft. wide so I have plenty of room to stretch out, and it's 25 in. deep so when I fill the tub full my body actually floats in the water," says Voigt.

A key feature of the bathtub is that the walls are fully insulated, which helps the water stay warm for a longer period of time. And there's a sliding cover on top that helps retain heat. "If I close the covers most of the way, the water stays the same temperature for at least an hour without ever cooling down," says Voigt.

Three small 7-watt "night lights" are built into the walls and are activated by pressing a switch. "When I turn the lights on and close the covers over me, it's quite a cozy feeling," says Voigt.

He made a 1-in. thick wood frame for the tub by gluing together sheets of 1/2-in. thick plywood. The tub is lined with galvanized steel, a 1-in. layer of Styrofoam, and then 1/4-in. thick poly panels. Voigt used latex silicone acrylic to seal all the joints.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Voigt, 9208 Pasture Lane, Wausau, Wis. 54403 (ph 715 842-8471; KV57@aol.com).

Chimney Fan Vents Smoke Out

If you have trouble getting good draft in a chimney, you'll like the Exhausto RS Chimney Fan.

The electric-operated fan mounts on top of the chimney and pulls smoke upward. It can be used on wood or gas burning fireplaces, stoves, ovens and barbecues. A variable speed control unit, installed near the fireplace, is used to control fan speed so the fan doesn't pull out more heat than necessary.

The top of the fan is equipped with hinges which allows easy access to the flue and fan blades.

Four different fan sizes are available. Retail prices start at \$1,500 plus S&H. The unit comes with a 2-year factory warranty, a 10-year corrosion perforation warranty, and a 6-year unconditional money-back guarantee.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, EXHAUSTO, Inc., 1200 Northmeadow Parkway, Suite 180, Roswell, Georgia 30076 (ph 800 255-2923; info@exhausto.com; www.chimneyfans.com).



Fan mounts on top of chimney to pull smoke upward.