

Sweetie-Licious™

Sweetie News – Holidays 2009



Good Food, Good Deeds Good Lives... by Linda Hundt



I love, love, love this time of year. The spirits of the holidays are thick in the air and you can feel it the people, the places and especially the food. Nothing can compare to the holiday treats and all of the baking wonders that have come out of family kitchens for generations. I know in our family I grew up enveloped with Christmas baking traditions. My dear grandmother from West Virginia would send a much anticipated frozen chocolate pecan pie up to our family every year, and my mother would make various pies, cheesecake, cookies, stained glass hard candy, fudge and caramels for family and friends to enjoy. I remember my mother would always let me and my brothers and twin sister help make the holiday treats. For me, this was utopia.

My memories of this time are lovely, but are probably a bit embellished with age. Most definitely, Christmas cookie decorating was our family's favorite baking tradition. Back in the late sixties and early seventies at Christmas time, I remember our family happily listening to Nat and Bing while snow gently drifted out our tiny, turquoise kitchen window. I remember my dear mommy somewhat patiently leading us through another treasured holiday tradition while my daddy read the newspaper in the living room oblivious to the commotion.

The kitchen was chaotic and crowded with all five of us kids crammed in, anxious to keep the Christmas cookie decorating tradition alive and well. Every year it was exactly the same, siblings fighting over cookie cutters, cookies decorated

quaintly and imperfectly and kids sneaking cookie dough from our big, brown, chipped mixing bowl with joyous giggles echoing throughout our brick home. Despite the cramped space, spats, and mess, the time together as a family was perfect. Not perfect in the real sense of the word, but perfect because we were together and it was our McComb family tradition.



I implore all of you to continue your own family traditions or start new ones, for it is paramount that time-honored traditions continue for our children and our children's children. For there is nothing better than having the magic in our hearts at Christmastime as we recall warm, sweet memories of delicious holiday treats, loving family traditions and Santa Claus!



Mom McComb's Peanut Butter Fudge



1 C. sugar
1 C. brown sugar
1/2 C. of half and half
1 1/3 C. of peanut butter
1 jar (7 oz.) marshmallow cream
1/4 C. crushed peanut butter chips
1/4 C. mini chocolate chips

Boil sugars and half/half for 3 minutes. Add peanut butter and marshmallow cream. Mix well. Pour into buttered 8 inch square pan. Sprinkle with peanut butter chips and chocolate chips mixture. Chill until set and cut into squares



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Our Thanksgiving was a record breaker – somewhere around 650 pies flew out the doors of our darling shop to help make all of our customers special day of Thanks that much more special. We thank you all for your love and support for the last FOUR years. Yes, it's hard to believe, we just celebrated our fourth year a few weeks ago. I am so, so grateful for each and every one of you.

Speaking of grateful, have I mentioned our amazing staff yet this newsletter? Forgive me for being repetitive, but I cannot finish this newsletter without raving about my wondrous crew here at Sweetie-licious. Making, baking and boxing that

many pies is quite a task in such close quarters and with only two ovens...but we did it nearly flawlessly. We are an amazing team working around the clock to make sure as many people as possible could enjoy our award winning pies! Thanks to all of my dear staff!

Thanks to Michigan Home Resource Guide magazine for the opportunity to let me write my baking thoughts and delicious memories and recipes in a feature article. Check it out on our website. They put together a beautiful magazine on Michigan homes.

Come in and enjoy our adorable store all dressed up in its holiday garb and don't forget to let Sweetie-licious take some stress out of your Christmas season. Let us do your baking and gift giving for you.

God Bless us Everyone – Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays



*Somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy you give to others,
Is the joy that comes back to you
-- John Greenleaf Whittier*



About Linda Hundt



Linda resides in a century old farmhouse with her sweet husband and two lovely teenage daughters. She is the owner of Sweetie-licious Bakery Cafe in DeWitt MI. She was the grand prize winner at the 2009, and a first place winner at the 2008 & 2007 National Pie Championships. Linda is a Board Member of the CMU College of Business, Entrepreneurial School, and the 2009 Athena Power-Link recipient. She is also the co-founder of the Downtown DeWitt Farmers Market.



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