

## Recipe of the Day

### THE ULTIMATE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE

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#### Ingredients:

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1-1/4 C. flour  
1/4 tsp. soda  
1/8 tsp. baking powder  
14 oz semisweet - sweet chocolate, finely chopped  
1 C. sugar  
9 Tbs. unsalted butter, cut in pieces  
1/4 C. light corn syrup  
1/4 C. water  
3 eggs chilled  
1 T. vanilla  
1-1/2 C. chopped walnuts, divided

#### Preparation:

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1. heat oven to 325 degrees F. Line a 13X9 1/2" pan with double layer of aluminum foil. Butter the bottom of foil.
2. Stir flour, soda, baking powder and salt together. Put semi sweet chocolate in separate large bowl.
3. In a medium saucepan combine butter, sugar, corn syrup and water. Cook until butter melts, sugar is dissolved and mixture comes to a boil. Pour the hot syrup over the chocolate and let it stand for a minute or two to melt chocolate. Whisk until smooth.
4. One at a time, whisk in the eggs, blending until smooth. Whisk in vanilla and flour mixture, until batter is smooth. Fold in 1 C of the walnuts and 6 oz of the Swiss chocolate.
5. Spread batter into pan. Top with remaining walnuts and chocolate.
6. Bake for 4-50 minutes, until toothpick comes out with a few moist crumbs. Cool, cover with plastic, and let sit 6 hrs. at least.

# Vanish With the Rose #54

from Nicki Lynch, P.O. Box 3120, Gaithersburg, MD 20885. Internet address: [lynch@access.digex.net](mailto:lynch@access.digex.net)  
To see issues of our fanzine, MIMOSA, and other stuff, check out our website at [www.smithway.org/mimosa](http://www.smithway.org/mimosa) Eurodiary site: <http://www.smithway.org/eurodiary> Russia 94 site: <http://www.smithway.org/russia94> This is written solely for the members of the 92nd mailing of KAPA.

3/8/98

White Eagle Press #348

Well, it all started with a letter to my mother from Germany. In our weekly call, she told me she received a letter from a woman in Munich with the same last name as hers. The woman had a book of the family history for that name and it included my father's death and my mom's address. She wanted to know if my mother had any family history to pass along. Her husband's family was from a small island in the Balkans.

So we talked about family history for a while. My father died when I was young and my mother didn't know his family very well. They had also mostly died when my father was young, except for an aunt who came over from the old country. We had some information about the family from my aunt (his sister) by way of the elderly aunt, but not much. The family was from the Ukraine, but were ethnic Poles. I didn't think that we were related to anyone in Germany, especially since the family name had been changed when they came over. I suggested that I check the net for the family name.

So, I did. I was amazed that I got as many hits as I did. I did find three places in the US that featured the family name - Arizona, California and Washington state. I was pleased to find a home webpage in Washington, as I knew my father's brother had moved to Seattle in the 1940's. I think I found my cousin's webpage - my uncle's grandson - and sent him an e-mail. Oddly enough, he is graduating with an M.S. in Computer Science this year, as am I, and has an interest in computer security, a field I used to work in.

The Arizona and California families are probably from the German family and not related to us. However, they are no less interesting. The California family owns a dairy farm and one of the women is a popular country dance choreographer. The Arizona family is part of the German family and the old families of Arizona and quite active in family history research.

There was also an anestheologist who had several medical papers on the web. There was also someone with the same name who was part of a philosophical graduate student project. It's possible it was the same person, but the dates didn't seem to make it likely.

Being on a roll, I decided to try the other side of the family. I have an uncle who has access to the web and has been interested in family genealogy for a long time. For a long time we thought that our family and one of the same name in New Paltz, NY, were related. Since we're from Northern NY, it seemed likely. However, he found out this was not the case. So, knowing that, I looked for the name on the web. I found a number of references to the New Paltz branch and they are probably why there is a USS naval ship with the family name. Our branch of the family are in the Air Force. I also found a possible fan in Toronto with the family name. Since the family is French Canadian, I dropped him a note with the probability we're

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related.

One surprising hit was in Australia. The gentleman there is very involved conspiracy theories, alien abduction and the like. I didn't read much of what he wrote - to see if he was for or against - I wanted to move on to other things - but I think he was for, from the titles. It might be worth researching at a later date, but I again, I don't think we directly related.

I also found a number of doctors and genealogy pages. I also found one home page that may be a cousin I knew in childhood. He's a song writer in Nashville, but I need to ask my uncle if he knows what the children of our great uncle are doing nowadays.

One very long shot was on a website for an upcoming movie - *John Carpenter's Vampires* from John Streakley's book (which was titled *Vampire\$*, if memory serves). I thought that maybe one of the cast or crew had the family name. It turned out to be one of the character names!

So it was a pretty interesting two hours on the net and a lot of possibilities for finding out what's happening in the family. If you haven't done a web search on your family name, it might prove interesting.

\*\*\* This just in!!! March 19, 1998 - DISCLAVE IS CANCELED. The hotel canceled the contract six weeks before the May convention date. Rumor has it that last year's hotel sent a letter to this year's hotel that blamed the water incident on Disclave. It has also been said that Disclave was not going to make its room commitment. For whatever reason, there will be no 1998 Disclave. Please see the WSFA website for further details - [www.wsfa.org](http://www.wsfa.org) \*\*\*

On to the comments on KAPA 91.

OO Pat

Nice to have a new member.

### Transitional Phases 35 Naomi

Sorry to heard about Stinker. It's especially hard when a non-verbal life is suffering and you can't help, be it a child or animal. \*\* You've seen a lot more movies than we have this year. In movies, it doesn't matter how disgusting a man is, the cute young thing falls for him. People at work LOVED *Good Will Hunting*. They also enjoyed *Titanic*. Hollywood isn't buying a hit; they're buying effects and stars. Who's going to see a major motion picture that looks like it way made in someone's basement? If the ship in *Titanic* looked like a model, you would not have enjoyed the movie as much. I've seen criticism of *Titanic* for its silly love story and simplistic view that all rich people are bad and all poor people are sweet and good. We haven't seen it yet. Three hours without an intermission is a bit daunting. The last time we were at the theater (to see another film) the place was packed with people waiting to see *Titanic*, the

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parking garage was full and the street outside the complex was jammed with traffic. Amazing. Conversely, I've seen a lot of crappy low budget films. Being on a shoestring isn't better. *The Full Monty* wasn't as funny as I thought it would be and it didn't have much of an ending. It also was a movie that said it didn't matter what a man looks like, he can be sexy. Can you imagine a room full of men if the women strippers were middle age and not in great shape? Not in any movie that will ever be made. \*\* ct Joel Considering all the movies you've seen and concerts and plays you attend, you don't miss much entertainment! \*\* ct Guy Actually, the average person probably does know who Barry Scheck is - his full name is "Barry Scheck, part of the O.J. Dream Team", like Madonna is called "The Material Girl" after one of her hits. I think it's part of his contract whenever he appears on TV, which he has milked for all its worth. It is certainly mentioned in the papers every time his name comes up. He was a law expert for the *Today* program for a while and has hit all the talk shows constantly. Sorry, but you're probably in the minority of people who've not heard of Scheck. Careful! Such ignorance makes you a prime candidate for a jury! If you keep up with events, they'll never put you on a jury - you've formed an opinion. \*\* Ct Guy I agree that a Kentucky con should host the KAPA 100 celebration. \*\*ct Guy The idea of P.C.ness takes on a whole new meaning when you see it as Personal Computer. \*\* ct Guy "...English language readers are actually a minority..." of science fiction readers? I find that hard to believe. Are you looking at all fiction and literacy percentages? Science fiction and fantasy have wide English speaking audiences and most of the authors are English speaking. Still, the Seiun award at Worldcon was terribly done at LoneStarCon and totally stupid. The Texans seemed to think the Toastmaster was delightful; I was appalled he was in that position. \*\* ct Guy People may not be aware of this, but when one wins TAFF or DUFF, one not only goes on the trip, but is the administrator of that fan fund until the next person is elected. That person is the one who holds the auctions, raises and holds the money, and runs the election for the next winner. \*\* ct Guy The people who had pepper spray rubbed in their eyes for the heinous crime of staging a sit in looked like a mixture of men and women, from the video tapes lovingly taken at the incident by the cops. The media didn't seem to care much about it, either. After running the video for a few news programs, it vanished. \*\* ct me Chill out, the odd facts were an E-mail that been floating around. I have no idea if they are accurate, nor do I care. \*\* ct me Rich did a postcard diary for SFPA and it (and his Russian trip report) are on the web. See my colophon. He even added the actually pictures from the postcards. \*\* ct me We liked *L.A. Confidential*. It captured that time period very well. Every movie made in Hollywood assumes the world revolves around L.A., in the same way each local newspaper assumes the world revolves around that locality. How much local news do you know about other than your local vicinity? \*\* ct me I thought I mentioned one could order tickets through a ticket service for the *Star Wars* exhibit at the Smithsonian. The down side is you pay a fee for a free event. \*\* ct me Clam Chowder rehearsing by E-mail was their joke, so I guess you'll have to ask them. \*\* ct Bryan Is there any place on this planet where people plan ahead?

BlueGras no. 36 Guy

I kinda forgot that most people would be writing this around Christmas time until I saw your zine. \*\* A manual typewriter..Guy, it shows. Where did you find it and can you get more ribbons? \*\* So how do you

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plan to change your life so you're not a weird old man? Hope it's not too late! You could always come to the Mecca of lawyers - Washington, D.C. \*\* ct Naomi "...being beaten past stupefaction with its moral..." is about what I expect from Spielberg. \*\* ct Naomi What is "...an historically meaningful tragedy"? More so than any other? Was the bombing in Oklahoma City an historically meaningful tragedy, or just not important enough for people to romanticize? I'm just not into turning every place where someone dies into a perpetual shrine. If this is to be the case, is there a foot anywhere on dry land where human blood has not been spilled? \*\* ct Joel Did you know there's a database on the web where you can look up what you're former high school classmates are up to? I saw a quick review of it in **USAToday** a while ago. Sort of a virtual high school reunion. Many class reunions are done by professional companies nowadays. It's becoming rarer and rarer that the old classmates put it on themselves. I think it's due to people moving away from the old home town, especially small towns. \*\* ct me Didn't Rich talk about the last Corflu we attended several years ago in SFPA? Heavy sigh. Several years ago (I was still at N.I.S.T. and had decided to get the Masters) we decided to "bid" to hold a Corflu in the Washington area. We had been attending Corflus for a while and several of the regulars felt the con should move around and it hadn't been in Washington for a while. So we said OK and got ready to present our "bid" (against no one else) the next year. Well, Rich wanted it in Virginia and I wanted it in Maryland. He had Alexis Gilliland to help out and so won out. When we got to Madison, WI, we were greeted by a slander zine from Ted White and future DUFF administrator Dan Steffan upset that we were going to do a Corflu on their home turf without their "permission." (Doesn't this sound familiar?) We were upset (which seemed to surprise them) and said we would pull out of our bid, which upset everyone else at the con. Rich was persuaded to continue, I opted out and Ted and Dan were "added" to the concommittee. They were supposed to do the programming, which they farmed out to another fan, so it looked exactly like the programming at the last several Corflus. They also bitched and moaned about how bad it would be and did what they could to make it so. We footed the bill, even though they were supposed to be equal partners. They didn't pay a penny. So, since then Corflu (truthfully) has been at a bad time, usually the weekend that I had to be at work with a new release. We haven't been back. This year's Corflu was in England, I have no idea where the next one will be. \*\* ct me Clam Chowder is a FOLK group, Guy. Fans filk, remember?

### Treading Water Betsy

The flu is pretty bad. I'm still trying to shake my cough. \*\* We usually get a few boxes of Girl Scout cookies each year. Several people at work are selling them for their kids.

### Kentucky Nuggets 50 Jodie

Sorry to hear that Funny Farm is no more. Long time ago my grandmother was the postmistress of the local P.O. and we always knew the postmistress when we lived with my grandparents. We still have a P.O. Box, but we really don't know the postal people. Good to hear from you, Andy. How about jointing? \*\* Ct me OK, how old is the British monarchy and who was the first to start it? Was Arthur a real king near the beginning or just a myth? How long was the longest unbroken secession? Do you think Britain will

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keep the monarchy into the 21st century? \*\* Do you watch the “March Madness basketball games, as well as U of K games? Rich took two days off from work to watch it in the beginning. Since he’ll be leaving for Eastern Europe on March 24th, he won’t see the final games.

### Better Late.... Number 5 Joel

For a brief take on Corflu, see ct to Guy above. Where did I say I was “avoiding” Ditto? I said I hadn’t been in a while. The time or place just didn’t seem to work out for Ditto. Either Rich was away or Grad classes were too tight. \*\* Hm, I think the Philly people had a party at Philcon, but it wasn’t anything special. I had expected a big splash, but didn’t see one.

### Sailing the Normalcy #26 Bryan

Actually, I hadn’t heard about what was going on in Nashville fandom. Thanks for the update! \*\* Carl Perkins skiing. A joke I guess. The *Post* had a humorous article “In Defense of Tree Skiing”. \*\* ct me I’m guessing that the Clam Chowder CD will be available from a dealer with a large folk music selection at any good size con, since they didn’t indicate that they would be “on tour.” I don’t think they were reunited so much as they got together for a few gigs to hype the CD. \*\* ct Pat James Randi has long been a fraud debunker. He gave a lecture at N.I.S.T. several years ago on debunking Geller. It was very entertaining. So, what did you think about Penn & Teller on *Babylon 5*?\*\* ct Pat I hear Congress wants to “sunset” the tax laws. It’s glib and quick to say “Oh, let’s just scrap it and start another.” but not particularly smart or cost effective. What happens to all the retirement savings that are tied into the tax laws, such as 401(k)s? What happens to all the groups that have various tax exemptions? These usually tie into state taxes as well. What about reprogramming all the payroll programs, with either no government taxes (there will still be state, etc) or some new system? What chaos! How much will this cost each employer to make all these changes, which are not free? What about the lead time? It would also put anyone who does taxes (programs or personally) out of business. There is also no guarantee that a “new” tax structure would be better. Congress will still make sure all their friends pay few taxes. As usual, Congress is looking only at the short term and has no clue how the implementation will impact those who have to live with their bright ideas. \*\* “Why is Ken Starr investigating this?” Oo, oo, I know! I don’t know all the legal terms, but it’s essentially “pillow talk”. The FBI director expanded the Whitewater investigation on that premise. Why is a “right-wing” conspiracy such an odd idea? The guy who wrote the original article that started the Paula Jones case is currently all over the news saying he wrote the article solely to dirty up Clinton and he can no longer stand behind his story. Both Jennifer Flowers and Jones are heavily backed by right-wing organizations. The whole thing about the “murder” of Vince Foster was a lie started and perpetuated by right-wing people who never saw the body; even Ken Starr had to issue a statement that there was nothing to point to a murder and close the investigation. The Republicans invented the dirty trick and have been using it for years - the correct term would be conspiracy. \*\* It’s not a matter of “getting caught” because every organization and individual must be declared when they donate to a candidate. It’s a matter of it being legal - certain monetary limits and who the money comes from. If the Snuff Films people are Americans and below the limit, it would be legal.

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### Notes from the Club Car 46 Pat

ct Guy There has been some talk about moving the Seiun Awards (and the other non Hugo Awards) to a different time and place than the Hugos, but it hasn't been done yet. I think it should stay. \*\* ct me see ct to Naomi. Doesn't everyone get jokes the like passed around Internet? \*\* ct me Good question - it will depend on how many people (1) want to return to Orlando and (2) want a Disney con. I'd love to go back to Boston, but that's no longer an option. Boston just doesn't have the space for our type of con. The concom also could not get a reasonable rate. I'm inclined toward Philadelphia, as it's a great city and it's been a long time since the Worldcon was there. However, we have a number of people we would visit on the way down to Orlando, so we see it as a win-win situation. \*\* ct Jodie Why would the NRA not want people to be trained in guns? Don't they offer training classes? I would think it would boost their membership quite by having people required to take their classes and get a pitch to join. \*\* ct Bryan I agree totally. In the past few weeks, several of the local schools have had bomb planted by students (real bombs, real students) and if the schools had not been evacuated, a lot of people would have been killed. When I was in high school, we had several bomb scares and the school was evacuated. Washington, D.C. probably has a bomb scare daily; while some people may not think government employees are people too (like Oklahoma City), they should be evacuated when there is a bomb threat.

### The Muunie Bin Sue

Welcome to KAPA! May you enjoy the apa and be here for a long time. \*\* I've been in fandom for quite a while. My husband and I found SF fandom when we moved to Tennessee years ago, our first con being Kubla Khan Kubed where we met many of the Southern fans who became our dearest friends. We moved to Washington a few years ago. I'm a Quality Assurance Analyst, which means I test software, for a retirement services company. We have daily bookkeeping software that tracks 401(k) funds.

End mailing comments.

Well, Rich was planning on leaving for Eastern Europe Mar. 24th, but the Poland part was canceled.

We also took a quick trip up to Hagarstown to see the Maryland Symphony Orchestra's founding conductor's last performance. He's retiring after 16 years and the concert was a special one. We got the tickets through the local National Public Radio station during their pledge drive. It was a pretty good concert and we got to see that long time fan, Harry Warner, jr.

I've got to finish up a quilt for my guild's bi-annual quilt show, at the end of the month.

See you next time. N