

THE
ENTERTAINING TALES
OF TABBY, PRISY & PEACHES®

You are invited to the
Green Valley
Orchards & Kitchen
Annual Gathering
Open House
Saturday, January 24
1 to 5 in the afternoon
Cherry Hill Farm House
Peaches and Rufus McPurr

A PEACHES TALE
FOR JANUARY

Peaches and Rufus used to have their annual company party in December, but they decided a few years ago that there was just too much going on during the Christmas season to add one more party. And, they felt that the Christmas season should be spent with family, not dealing with business parties. So they moved their annual gathering to January. This move was ap-

plauded by their employees as they enjoyed a party during late January when things were quiet. It gave everyone something to look forward to after the holidays. Annual employee bonuses had already been given out at Thanksgiving so that everyone would have their bonus to use for Christmas.

Rufus and Peaches always had the Open House in their home. Most of their employees visited for an hour or two during the course of the afternoon. Peaches removed all the Christmas decorations from her house, but had left decorations with pine and holly and snowmen. Paper plates and napkins had pinecones on them. The big dining room table had a centerpiece of snowmen among pine trees. She served generous amounts of finger foods and desserts. There was plenty of hot chocolate served with marshmallows and hot cider

served with cinnamon sticks.

Everyone had a good time talking about what they did for Christmas and about the coming spring. A big discussion went on about the books that everyone received for Christmas and what they were reading. The men, of course, tended to cluster together to talk about sports and the women enjoyed talking about their latest knitting or quilting projects and their children.

Everyone was given a tote bag of the new products that Green Valley Kitchen would be bringing out for this year. By 5:30 even the very last guest had left. They had hired staff to help serve food, but only until 5. So Rufus and Peaches rolled up their sleeves and spent the next couple of hours trying to get the house back to normal. Now they could settle in for a quiet rest of the winter.



GRANDMOTHER TABBY'S ETIQUETTE TIP #16

When having a very large party always be sure to hire some people to work in the kitchen to keep the food plates replenished and to pick up discarded paper plates and drink cups.

PVW

January 1, 2009

Dear Polly,

The New Oak City Museum Fund Raiser Committee will meet Tuesday, January 20th at one o'clock at The VanMeow Brownstone.

Warmest regards,

Chairwoman Prissy Van Meow

A PRISSY TALE FOR *JANUARY*

Each year the Museum Fund Raiser Committee came up with a new fund raiser for the museum. This year the executive board decided they would publish a cook book. They wanted their cook book to have a different angle, so

they decided on an “entertaining by the month” cook book. There were 12 board members and each would be given a month. Prissy and her co-chair had already assigned the months as they knew it would take forever to make this decision in a committee meeting. Polly Poodle was given August since she was so weight and calorie conscious and this way she could be working with a lot of fresh organic summer foods. Antoinette Angora was given November since she would want lots of high calorie recipes using lots of cream and Thanksgiving would accommodate that the best. Prissy picked January as her month.

Prissy sent out hand-written invitations for the meeting. The meeting day came and everyone arrived. They all sat around her dining room table as there would be much note-taking. There was much animated discussion and many ideas floated around. It was finally decided that for their month everyone would create a breakfast or brunch menu, a luncheon menu and a dinner menu and one party menu such as a wine & cheese party or a dessert party. Recipes would be provided for all the food in the menus. It was also decided that every recipe had to be tested by three people to be sure it came out right.

With every meal there would be suggestions for decorating the table and photos of the meal on the table. The deadline to finish this book would be September so they could get it to the printer and have it ready for a launch

party and to sell in the museum gift shop in October. Each of the 12 committee members would form subcommittees to help with their month of recipes and decorating tips and to try out the recipes.

They decided to meet in February to compare recipes to make sure there were no duplicates. Antoinette was drooling over all the rich recipes she would have to personally try for her month. It was also suggested that each month should begin with a photograph of one of the paintings in the museum that was representative of that particular month. For example, Vincent VanGoat's painting of Sunflowers would be perfect for August. They decided to meet at the museum in one week to look at the paintings and decide what they would use for their month.

A delicious lemon chiffon cake and tea were served while everyone excitedly talked about all the ideas they had for their month. However Prissy sat back and knew that she would have to do a lot of editing and knew that she would have to keep a tight rein on what every committee was doing.



GRANDMOTHER TABBY'S ETIQUETTE TIP #17

When chairing a committee, be sure you have specific guidelines that everyone must follow to get their part of the job done. And be sure to do very frequent checks on how everyone is progressing.



*Coming up in the February issue of **Entertaining Tales:**
Prissy hosts a Valentine's Day bridal shower
and Grandmother Tabby coordinates the town's Groundhog Day celebration.*