

First things first. Big apology to Gayle Hicks for naming her on the birthday list as Gayle Douglas. Apology to her husband Clay also. Sorry, sometimes I really get dingy.

Well, tax season is over and though I enjoy doing taxes, I'm glad. (How bout you, Gay?) It's time to start fishing and things like that, besides lots of people seem to think the tax preparer is to blame when they have to pay in.

Well, I am getting a pretty good response (finally) on the recipes, I called the cookbook publishers and they said we could order 100 books at \$3.05 each. (This is for the very basic book, with no extras.) No sales tax, no shipping charge. I only have about 96 recipes and I will need your help. PLEASE! If you do not want to order a cookbook, then just submit a recipe. It doesn't have to be original, in fact, you can just rip one out of a magazine (if you think you'd like it). I would just like for everyone to at least have one recipe in the book. These are the categories, try to send a recipe for several categories.

Appetizers, Pickles, Relishes

Soups, Salads, Vegetables

Main Dishes

Breads, Rolls, Pastries

Cakes, Cookies, Desserts

Candy, Jelly, Preserves

Beverages, Microwave, Miscellaneous

Ansel, where are the recipes you were going to send? Samie, Viola, Martha, Debbie and Gay where are your recipes? Lonnie, either you send a recipe or have Betty send one for you. Linda, Pam & daugthters, Christy, Deana, Rita Jo, Tera and Aleshia, where are your recipes? Aunt Carrie I'd love to have some of your recipes and some recipes from your granddaughters also. All of the numerous other relatives, where are your recipes? This is the last time I'm gonna nag you. The recipes go off May 15th. I would like to see everyone's name in there beside a recipe, poem, joke, motto, etc, but regardless, we'll have a cookbook (It could be passed down for a family heirloom someday) It will be around the middle of August before we get them back and those of you who have sent \$5 will get your \$1.95 (per each book you ordered) refunded if you pick up your book. If I send it by mail, cost of postage will be withheld from that.

I have some recipes with no name and they have become separated from the letter or envelope they came with. They are: Potato Bake, Spinach Bacon Quiche, Chili Cheese Dip and Spinach Rolls. Whoever sent these recipes please give me a call or drop a postcard before May 15th.

Mickey sent recipes, thanks, Cindi Upchurch sent recipes and ordered a cookbook and challenged all of the cousins to do the same, thanks, Cindi. Daisy sent more recipes, thank you. Thank you, Lynne, BJ, Judy, Dee, Dale, Charlene, Debbie D., Margie Gordon, Viola Locke, Laura Belle Johnston and anyone else I might have missed.

Erik Craddock sent some Arabic recipes that he claims are very good. Thank you, Erik. He also says he wants good home cooked food and none of that catered stuff. He is really looking forward to the family reunion and said it may be the last one he gets to attend for a while since the USAF has plans to send him to England.

Valta Kirkegard stopped by for a few minutes yesterday and promised to send some recipes. Thank you, Valta for your gift.

It's getting closer to the reunion and some of the folks have begun making comments such as: Erik Craddock; "I'm gonna win everything but the fishing contest"; Rosalee Nath: " Tell Lonnie the only reason he won last year was because I got so sick."

Bet ya'll are wondering how the food vote turned out, well as of today, April 26th, I have received 13 votes, 10 of those voted

to cook our own food and 3 voted to cater. (Keith, just for the record, I voted to cater.) There were some good arguments presented against catering, such as: it would be too hard to plan and too hard on the young families with children, not knowing how many would be present, and we are too scattered, (by distance or brains, I'm not sure) and some folks might not have the cash and it wouldn't be fair for the Craddock Fund (not enough after building rent to pay for it all) to pay for part of the catering and others to pay for their part, there would not be any left over goodies for us to munch on all day, others are bringing guests, Samie had a very good reason, she likes Aunt Fay's Chocolate Cake. Gayle Hicks thinks that we should bring the recipes that we submitted for the cookbook (We might starve if we limit it to that, ha ha I just had to put in a little dig) You're a wonderful bunch of people, that I love and I will not hold a grudge against those of you who don't care about my silly cookbook. Anyway it looks like we will be bringing lots of good food to eat and I know we'll all enjoy it.

David, remember you said you would make the fishing rules and be in charge of that this year? Well, Dan and I are holding you to that. Send some rules by the last of May. I need your promised recipe also.

Any volunteers to help with game planning or buying doorprizes, awards and trophies? Don't swamp the mail now.

Don't forget to bring something for the auction. This pays for our building rent at the lake and also for the Community Bldg in Binger for the Pitch Contest. (If anyone knows of a better place to have the Pitch Games, speak up) It has been requested for Bob Craddock, Ansel Finley and Joe Bob Craddock to each take a turn being the auctioneer. How bout it fellas?

We also use some of the money to buy trophies and door prizes. Dan Craddock is our treasurer and will be making out a financial statement for us in July or August

Congratulations Senior of 93! Jeremy Ryan Unchurch is gray

Jeremy Ryan Upchurch is graduating from the Anadarko High School in May. His mother, Cindi Upchurch reports that Jeremy has really excelled in his education this year, making A's and Honor A's all year. He has a Grade Point Average of 4.31. He has been in 2 drama productions and got quite a bit of playing time on the basketball court. Cindi further states that she is very proud of Jeremy and that he is everything a Mom could desire in a son.

I would like to add that I saw Jeremy's picture in the Anadarko Daily News a couple of times, and that his coach said "Jeremy was the most improved player of the year." I'm going to further say that I think I remember his coach saying he had never seen anyone improve so much so fast.

God bless you, Jeremy. Have a successful and happy life.

A warning to the boys that might be interested in Kaci, Jeremy's sister. Cindi warns that she has a big baseball bat behind her front door for those young fellows brave enough to show up.

I don't have any graduates of my own to announce this year, but I'm very proud of my 32 year old daughter and mother of three, Lynne Murrow. She is going to college in Alva and making some very good scores. She made an A+ on an essay that she had been real worried about. You're doin' great, Lynne.

Daisy wants to know how Carl is coming along with the "Orange Blossom Special" well, Daisy I can only say that I don't think that train is gonna be in on time.

Joe & Deb dipped down this way on a brief business trip. We did manage to work in a few games of Rook. Joe and Carl beat us but only because we were weary and not really into the game, plus they had luck on their side.

I dropped by Samie's a few days ago and she was making chicken fajita's. Larry said he had to run to the store for the chicken because Samie was going to make spaghetti fajita's. He was not sure if he had been duped into going to the store or if Samie really had intended to use spaghetti. Knowing Samie I wouldn't haven't taken the chance either, Larry. (just teasing, Samie)

Dale, Dee and Aaron came down the week Binger had it's townwide garage sale. Dee, Samie and I braved the wind and rain, and spent the better part of the day looking for bargains. I have never seen anyone get so excited over yard sales as Dee. She said she couldn't remember when she had ever had so much fun. Dee I'm glad you enjoyed it, I had fun too. I think the men folks enjoyed it too. Dale, did you forget your birdcage or didn't Dee leave you enough room to take it? Larry spent much of his time installing a dish washer for me, thanks, Larry.

When Betty Craddock sent her recipes, she wrote "writing down these recipes brought back memories of the time Carolyn and I made our first rhubarb cream pie. We found what we thought was wild rhubarb (which was actually Burdock weed) looking so much like rhubarb. We looked up a recipe and baked 2 cream pies. We should have known something was wrong when our pie turned green."

Betty, that little story reminded me of a similar incident in California. The other party was you or Carolyn, I'm not sure which. But there was this big field right out back, someone said it was beets. We never thought to much about the fact that they were white, thinking maybe they would turn red after we cooked them awhile, well, they never did and we later learned they were sugar beets. Betty, was that you, or Carolyn? We better stick to Homeland.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Emerald- symbolizing love and success **3rd Angela Rose (Craddock) Wall 1966** 5th Samie Dee Lauray(Lynch)Craddock1953 7th David Glen Craddock Jr. 1963 10th Margie (Rhodes) Gordon 1922 **13th Laura Kay Bowes** 17th Aaron Gregory Craddock 1990 17th Marti Michelle Morris 1992 24th Allen Gene Craddock 1947 25th Brandy Lynn Foster 25th Jared Dean Morris 1983 25th Allen Ray Craddock 1988 26th Leesa Lyn Morris 1979 **30th Roy Glen Crutchfield 30th Thomas DeWayne McIntosh 1973 31th Brandon Lee Morris 1982** ****

2nd	Kory & Kelly Jensen	8 yrs.
3rd	Robert & Susan Lafferty	24 yrs.
4th	Michael & Kelly Clingon	2 yrs.
20th	Marty & Tammy Rice	10 yrs.
29th	Larry & Samie Craddock	22 yrs.
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Congratulations Stacey & Rod Davis, proud parents of a bouncing baby boy. (Why do they always say bouncing? Have you ever seen a new born baby bouncing? I haven't.) His great grandma Fay said he was born April 14th and weighed 91bs. 14 ozs. She did not disclose his name, but we'll find out and let ya know. Congratulations to you too, grandpa Keith.

I was doing a little reminiscing today. It kinda started when our water pressure was just about nil. I begin wondering what we would do if our pump quit.

About 28 or 29 years ago when Mom

and Dad moved up here they dug this well and had this pump put in. They were told the average life of a pump is about 7 years. Well, it's still pumping strong and supplying 3 to 5 families all the time.

We all seem to take our water for granted. (You don't miss the water til the well runs dry thing) But as I begin thinking about Mom, I remember she wasn't like that. When I was a child and until I was about 12 or 13 years old, we didn't have running water. We had to go outside and bring our water in, at times we had a pump, other times I remember we had to draw the water out of the well with a bucket.

Mom would heat this water up on an open fire outside sometimes, to do the laundry. She scrubbed lots of overalls by hand. She had to heat our water on the stove for baths and dishes. After we moved to town and had hot, running, water, Mom never forgot that it was a blessing, she never took it for granted. She was forever saying how nice it was to have lots of good hot water to wash clothes and dishes, and scrub floors. She always remembered what it was like when she didn't have it. She didn't begrudge the fact that she had lots of work to do, but just thankful that she had lots of good hot water to work with.

Whenever she'd say that, I'd think, how nice it would be if we didn't have all those dirty clothes and dishes. I never truly appreciated that I had hot running water to wash them with. Well today, I did think about that. Fortunately, it was only a switch or the pressure set to low, Carl takes care of that, so I'll just thank God today and probably take my water for granted tomorrow. However, there is another thing we sometimes take for granted, Moms, and we never should. Moms are sorta like water in a way, we don't miss them until they're gone. I'm thankful for the good memories I have of her. I'm also thankful for the wonderful Aunts that I have. Happy Mother's Day to all of them.

In this material world we sometimes lose sight of the important things in life, and we put to much importance on material gain, thinking happiness lies there. Not true, while our fleshly bodies must have food and shelter, and we like comforts and pleasures and there is nothing wrong with those things or enjoying those things, they cannot make us happy, and if we don't know God, and gain the world, we will still find our lives lacking and empty. He's our fulfillment.

Joue, Ala Maris