



by Nancy Winfrey

# Kitchen Chatter

*Real Easy Simple, Delicious Home Cooking*

## Baked Corn & Cheese

2 cups fresh corn, but from cob  
1 cup grated sharp Cheddar cheese  
1 cup soft bread crumbs  
4 tablespoons butter or margarine  
1/4 cup finely chopped green peppers  
1/3 cup milk  
3 or 4 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted  
1 tablespoon instant minced onions  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/8 teaspoon pepper

Combine all ingredients and blend well. Place in well buttered casserole, cover, and bake in 350 degree oven for 35 to 40 minutes or until corn is tender. Serves 4.

## Great Marinated Asparagus

2 cans (14-1/2-oz. each) asparagus spears, well drained  
1 green pepper, finely chopped  
4 or 5 green onions, finely chopped  
1 rib celery, finely chopped  
3/4 cup vegetable oil  
1/2 cup red wine vinegar  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 small garlic clove, minced  
1/4 teaspoon paprika

Place the asparagus in a 9x13x2-inch baking dish. Combine the remaining ingredients, blend, pour over the asparagus, cover, and chill at least 4 hours or overnight before serving. When ready to serve, drain and serve on a bed of shredded lettuce. Serves 8.

## Dijon Chicken

6 whole chicken breasts, cut in half  
Salt and pepper  
Garlic powder  
1-1/2 cups sour cream  
1-1/2 cups Dijon mustard  
1 package (8-oz.) package Italian style fine bread-crumbs

Sprinkle the chicken breasts with salt, pepper and a bit of garlic powder. Combine the sour cream and mustard in a shallow dish and blend well. Dip each piece of chicken into the mustard mixture and then dredge in breadcrumbs to coat well. Arrange chicken in a single layer in a baking pan and bake in 375 degree oven for 50 minutes or until tender. Serves 12.

## Squash Fritters

1 pound zucchini, unpeeled and grated  
1 tablespoon minced fresh parsley  
1 tablespoon finely chopped green onion  
1 cup buttermilk pancake mix  
1 egg, beaten  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
1/2 cup vegetable oil (for deep frying)

Combine all above ingredients except the oil and blend well. In a skillet, heat the oil until very hot and drop mixture by tablespoonfuls into the hot oil. Cool until golden brown, then turn and brown other side. Drain on paper towels and serve immediately. Makes 1 dozen.

## Fried Ripe Tomatoes

2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 tablespoons sugar  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
3 large ripe tomatoes  
1/2 cup butter or margarine, plus 1 tablespoon  
6 slices of toasted bread, crumbled  
1 cup milk

In a bowl, combine the flour, sugar, salt and pepper and blend and set 2 tablespoons of the flour mixture aside. Cut tomatoes into about 1/2-inch slices and dredge in the bowl with the flour mixture. In a large skillet add the 1/2 cup butter or margarine and let heat. When hot, add the tomatoes and cook on each side until golden brown, turning only one time. Place the toasted bread slices in a dish, top each slice of bread with a fried tomato and place in warm oven to heat. Combine the remaining 1 tablespoon butter in the same pan the tomatoes were cooked in and combine with the pan drippings. Cook and stir and then gradually add the milk. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until thickened. Spoon sauce over the tomatoes and serve immediately. Serves 6.

## Chile Con Queso

*For great snacking, fix a bowl.*

1 can (16-oz.) diced tomatoes  
1 tablespoon bacon drippings  
1 large onion, finely chopped  
1 can (4-oz.) chopped green chilies, well drained  
1 package (1-lb.) Velveeta cheese, cut into small cubes (1/2-inch)  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/8 teaspoon pepper

Drain tomatoes, reserving juice - set aside. Heat the bacon drippings in a large skillet and then add the onions and sauté until tender. Add the tomatoes and chilies and cook over low heat, stirring frequently, and continue cooking for 15 minutes. Add reserved tomato juice, cheese cubes, salt and pepper and cook over low heat, stirring often, until cheese melts. Serve warm with tortilla chips. Makes 4 cups.

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**Recipe: Easy Blender Salsa**

**Ingredients:**

1 (14oz) can diced tomatoes	small to medium size handful of cilantro, washed
1 (10oz) can original Rotel	juice of 1 lime
1/2 small yellow onion, rough chop	1 to 1-1/2 teaspoon honey
1 clove garlic, peeled and smashed	1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
1/2 jalapeno, seeded (leave seeds for more heat)	salt and pepper to taste

**Directions:**

Put all the ingredients in a blender and pulse to combine for 30 seconds or so until all the ingredients are finely chopped and salsa is desired consistency. Check for seasoning and add salt and black pepper to taste. Store in the refrigerator. Enjoy!

*My Mom always made this for my Tacos. I like it HOT!*

*Mike Thigpen...*