

## Popcorn Balls And Yule Spirit Just Go Together

There's something about Christmas and popcorn balls that go hand in hand like high school kids. Mrs. O. K. Peckett was kind enough to take time out and whip up some popcorn balls, divinity fudge and other goodies for holiday serving. If these recipes don't make your mouth water, Susie doesn't know a peppercorn from a zweiback.

### DeLuxe Popcorn Balls

Pop your corn, or if rushed for time, buy it in the can already popped. It should be but SLIGHTLY salted and buttered.

Now, take one-half cup each of light New Orleans molasses, white corn syrup, granulated sugar and water. Add 1 T. vinegar, 1 tea. butter and dash of salt.

Boil the candy mixture until it hardens when dipped in cold water. Pour slowly over the corn, working up just a little at a time and keep the syrup hot on the range while you're doing this.

Molasses your hands slightly with cold water while forming the balls and this will keep you from getting stuck up like a New Rich. Press the corn firmly together to form balls. These balls will keep fresh for days, if well hidden!

### Double Divinity Candy

2 cups sugar  
2/3 cup water  
1/2 cup light corn syrup

Dash salt  
2 egg whites, stiffly beaten  
1 tea. vanilla

Combine 1/2 cup sugar and 2/3 cup water. Cook until small amount of syrup forms a soft ball in cold wa-

ter, 240 degrees if you have a candy thermometer. Cook remaining 1-1/2 cups sugar, 2/3 cup water and corn syrup until forms a hard ball in cold water, 254 degrees. Cool first syrup slightly, add slowly to egg whites beating constantly for about two minutes or until mixture loses its gloss. Add second syrup same way. Add vanilla and turn into buttered pan. Cut in squares when cold. Makes about 40 pieces.

### Spiced Walnuts

Can you imagine sprinkling these Spiced Walnuts in your cookie or candy gift box. We can, in fact we munched on those made by Jean Puckett and can vouch for their goodness.

1 cup walnuts, in halves  
1 cup sugar  
Dash salt  
1 tea. butter  
1 tea. nutmeg  
3 T. water

Boil sugar, salt and water until the syrup spins a thread. Add butter, nuts and nutmeg. Stir until cold. Pour onto wax paper and separate quickly, flat side down.

### Orange Sugared Walnuts

1 cup sugar  
1/4 cup water  
3 T. orange juice  
1/2 tea. grated orange rind

1 cup broken walnut meats  
Cook together sugar, water and orange juice until it forms a firm ball when dropped in cold water. Remove from heat and add grated orange rind and nut. Stir until syrup starts to turn to sugar. Before the mixture hardens, drop by teaspoonful on waxed paper or buttered platter.

### Preserved Ginger Cookies

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2 cups brown sugar  
1 cup butter

2 eggs  
3 cups flour  
1 1/2 tea. soda  
1 1/2 tea. baking powder  
1/2 cup finely chopped preserved ginger.

Cream butter. Add sugar and mix well. Add beaten egg. Next add sifted ingredients and then ginger. Shape into a roll and chill. Then slice thin and bake in hot oven, 400 degrees. About 8 to 10 minutes. Watch carefully so they do not burn.

### Black Walnut Pie

1 cup brown sugar  
2 eggs  
1/2 cup chopped nuts  
1/4 tea. salt  
1 1/2 cups milk, scalded  
3 T. cornstarch  
1 tea. vanilla  
1 T. butter

Combine sugar, butter, cornstarch and salt. Add milk slowly and cook until thick and smooth. Add yolks. Cook one minute. Add nuts and flavoring and pour into baked shell. Beat egg white and top with the meringue made by adding 2 T. sugar to each egg white. Brown in oven. (Susie is indebted to some kind friend who did not sign this donation but the pie is excellent. Thanks.)

## How About Some Dollar Gifts?

What's for a dollar? If your club's Christmas exchange with a dollar limit has you stumped don't be discouraged there is an unlimited selection of inexpensive gifts.

Stationery and note paper are always welcome along with other items such as ball point pens and gift pencils.

Many gifts in leather can be found under a dollar including address books, note books and memorandum pads.

Kitchen utensils in pyrex and stainless steel will delight the home maker as she would always like something for her home. Figurines will fit into that vacant nook in her house too.

Personals are popular. An array of sachets, silk scarfs, cosmetic kits, and hankies are available.

The best idea of all, if the club party is enough before Christmas day, give her a variety of wrapping papers, ties and stickers, or a large Christmas candle.

### Mince Pie

Everyone has their own theory on how to bake a mince pie, but for variety, dump in a can of fruit cocktail in a rich syrup. This is a good. Juicy pie and is a little more mild than the average mince.



SHELLEY O'NEILL is just a bit small to understand the feminine attributes of Christmas cookie making, but her mother, Mrs. Jack O'Neill, found time to make these delicious star cookies from an almond-butter base.

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