

# **Stirring Up Memories**

## **Frosting Was a Failure**

IN THE '40s, while my parents were at a farm auction, I tried my first effort in baking a cake. I was quite successful, but the frosting proved to be a challenge.

I chose a boiled frosting...followed the directions, cooking it until it formed a bubble when dropped in water. To be on the safe side, I boiled it a little longer. Though I managed to cover the cake, it became a difficult procedure. By the time I was almost done, the spatula was stuck, rock-hard, in the pan.

When my parents came home, I made coffee and we attempted to have cake, but we couldn't get the knife through the frosting! We finally removed the frosting in one piece, broke it up and ate it like peanut brittle.

—Robert H., Mosinee, Wisconsin

## **Sprouting Liver Plants**

WHEN I was a busy mom, in the '50s, every Wednesday was fried-calves'-liver-smothered-in-onions day. On Wednesdays, Dad and I had quality time, while the children took their dinners and ate in their little red clubhouse in the backyard.

Twenty years later, one of the children revealed that what they were really doing in the clubhouse was burying their liver slices. Whenever I need a good laugh, I look out back and imagine "liver plants" sprouting in the garden.

—Rochelle S., Charleston, South Carolina

## **Sunday Dinners Extraordinaire**

FOREMOST among memories of my grandma are her elegant Sunday dinners (left). The moment we entered her house, we were greeted with the aroma of a roast cooking in the oven. The menu

didn't vary much...mashed potatoes, fresh vegetables and gravy. Because it was Sunday, Grandma was dressed in her best clothes, protected by a freshly starched apron.

She set the table with fine linen and her best china. Minutes before we came to the table, Grandpa was already at the head of the table, patiently waiting to carve the roast. Pudding was the customary dessert, Grape-Nuts custard or tapioca, topped with slivers of pineapple and real whipped cream.

—Donna P., Bridgewater, Massachusetts