OLD-FASHIONED SUGAR COOKIES

1 cup shortening 5 cups cake flour

1 cup sugar 2 teaspoons baking powder

2 eggs, beaten 1½ teaspoons salt

2 teaspoons vanilla 1 teaspoon baking soda

1 cup sour cream

Cream shortening and sugar. In a separate bowl, mix eggs, vanilla and sour cream. Stir together the flour, baking powder, salt and baking soda and alternately add with the liquid mixture to shortening and sugar mixture. Refrigerate. Roll out the dough and roll the cookie roller over the dough. Carefully transfer to greased baking sheet and bake.

temperature: 375° F baking time: 15 minutes yield: approx. 100 cookies

CINNAMON COOKIES

1 cup butter Decoration:
1/2 cup sugar egg white
2 cups flour cinnamon
1 egg yolk sugar

Mix flour and sugar and cut in butter. Add the egg yolk and mix the dough together. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Roll out the dough and roll the cookie roller over the dough. Carefully transfer cookies to baking sheet. Lightly brush the shapes with lightly whipped egg white. Sprinkle the tops with a mixture of sugar and cinnamon. Bake.

temperature: 325° F

baking time: 10-12 minutes

yield: 72 cookies

ULTIMATE BUTTER COOKIES

½ cup butter ½ teaspoon vanilla

% cup sugar1 beaten egg½ teaspoon baking sodapinch salt2 tablespoons milk2½ cups flour

Cream butter and sugar, then beat in egg. Dissolve baking soda in the milk and add mixture to the creamed butter. Add vanilla, salt and flour. Mix well. If dough is too sticky, add a little more flour. Chill for 1 hour. Roll dough out on a floured cutting board and roll the cookie roller over the dough. Place on greased cookie sheet.

Cookies may be decorated with slivered almonds, hazelnuts or colored crystal sugar before baking. For shiny cookies, glaze with a mixture of egg yolk and water, sugar water or milk before baking.

temperature: 350° F

baking time: 10 minutes or until slightly brown

yield: 24 cookies

WHOLE WHEAT GINGERBREAD COOKIES

1 cup butter or margarine2 tablespoons orange juice3 cups all-purpose flour2 teaspoons cinnamon1 cup whole wheat flour1 teaspoon ground ginger1 cup packed brown sugar½ teaspoon baking soda½ cup molasses½ teaspoon ground cloves

1 egg ¼ teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon finely shredded orange peel

Beat butter and add half of the all-purpose flour. Add all remaining ingredients except the remaining flour. Mix well until thoroughly combined. Mix in remaining flour. Chill for 1 hour. Roll out dough on a lightly floured surface. Roll the cookie roller over the dough. After baking on a ungreased cookie sheet, cool cookies and decorate with Creamy Lemon Icing (below).

temperature: 375° F baking time: 8-10 minutes

yield: 24 cookies

CREAMY LEMON ICING

¼ cup shortening1 tablespoon lemon juice¼ teaspoon vanillafood coloring (optional)1¼ cups powdered sugardecorative candies (optional)

Beat shortening and vanilla until softened. Gradually beat in powdered sugar. Slowly add lemon juice until icing is of spreading consistency. If desired, stir in food coloring. Icing may be used as adhesive to attach decorative candies.

LINZER COOKIES

3 sticks sweet butter 1 cup cornstarch

1% cups confectioners' sugar 1 cup finely grated walnuts

1 egg ½ cup raspberry preserves

2 cups flour, sifted

Cream butter and 1 cup sugar, then beat in egg. Mix well until light and fluffy. Sift the flour and cornstarch together and add to creamed mixture. Add walnuts. Mix thoroughly. Refrigerate dough for 4 hours. Roll dough out on a floured cutting board and roll the cookie roller over the dough.

After baking, but while still warm, spread ¼ teaspoon of preserves on a cookie. Top with another cookie of the same shape to make a sandwich. Repeat until all cookies have been sandwiched. Finish by pressing the top and bottom of each cookie into the remaining powdered sugar to coat.

temperature: 325° F

baking time: 10-15 minutes or until slightly brown

yield: 48 cookies