

For those refined dishes you can de-vein shrimp

POLLY'S POINTERS



POLLY FISHER

DEAR POLLY — Which is the proper way to eat shrimp — de-veined or not? This seems to be a constant argument. — R.G.

DEAR R.G. — The dark vein running along the back of each shrimp is not harmful to eat, but it's not especially pleasant either. This "sand vein" as it is sometimes called is indeed sandy and gritty and most people find that unappetizing. However, if it doesn't bother you, there's no need to remove it.

For elegant, special presentations, however, I would certainly remove it to make the shrimp as delicious as possible! — POLLY

RECIPE OF THE WEEK: Fresh from the field, sweet corn is readily available in most parts of the country right now. Enjoy its sweet, delicate flavor in these old-fashioned corn fritters for a special breakfast or lunch treat or an unusual side dish at dinner. Combine ¼ cup milk, 3 eggs, 1 tea-

spoon salt, ½ teaspoon baking powder, 1 tablespoon sugar and 1¼ cups fresh corn kernels. Drop by tablespoonfuls onto a hot buttered griddle or skillet. Cook on both sides, as you would pancakes, until golden brown. Serve hot, plain or with butter and maple syrup.

My latest newsletter "Vegetable Varieties" offers more delicious recipes for enjoying the bounty of summer, including corn chowder, corn scallop, summer squash saute, stuffed eggplant, zucchini pizza, homemade chili sauce and more. Send \$1 for each copy to POLLY'S POINTERS, in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 93863, Cleveland, OH 44101-5863. Be sure to include the title. — POLLY

DEAR POLLY — My kids love ice cream cones, so I also serve them pudding cones, yogurt cones and gelatin cones. They seem to love all these desserts more in their portable, edible cones. — NANCY

DEAR POLLY — Do you have a homemade remedy for flea beetles, bean beetles and other bugs that are eating my vegetable garden faster than I can? — BARRY

DEAR BARRY — This pungent homemade garden spray is safe and won't damage your plants, but it will repel a wide variety of plant-eating bugs.

Grind together 4 fresh hot chili peppers, 4 onions and 2 bulbs garlic.

Place in a deep bowl or pot and add water to cover the ground vegetables by 1 inch. Let stand for 24 hours. Strain through cheesecloth, saving the liquid. Add enough water to the strained liquid to make 1 gallon. Use as a general-purpose insect spray over the entire garden.

Although this spray is safe, and vegetables may be harvested the day you spray, you'll want to wash the spray from the vegetables thoroughly — unless you like 'em hot!

I'm sending you a copy of my newsletter "Homemade Remedies for Household Pests," which includes homemade roach repellent, moth repellent and other pest remedies as well. Send \$1 for each copy to POLLY'S POINTERS, in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 93863, Cleveland, OH 44101-5863. Be sure to include the title. — POLLY

DEAR POLLY — I snip with scissors each ring of plastic that holds a six-pack of soda or beer before discarding. This prevents animals from getting their necks caught in the plas-

tic rings while snooping in the trash. It's been known to happen!

A critter chewed a hole the size of a quarter in my expensive outdoor patio umbrella while it was in storage. Instead of buying a new umbrella, I covered the hole with one of those non-skid flowers that are used on shower floors and distributed the rest of the flowers across the umbrella top. This is the second year for it and it's still holding up.

My greatest peeve is thoughtless people who throw lit cigarette butts out of their car windows. — B.G.

DEAR POLLY — If your baby is on a heart and apnea monitor, please write to your electric company and

let them know. Our son is on a monitor and we recently had a power failure. When we called to tell them, they asked us to write a letter of notice about the monitor so they could get the power on faster at our home in the future. — KATHY, RUSSELL AND CURTIS

DEAR K., R. AND C. — Thanks for an important reminder! Your helpful pointer earns you the Pointer of the Week award, a copy of my book "Polly's Pointers: 1,081 Helpful Hints for Making Everything Last Longer." Others may order it for \$6.50. Make your check payable to POLLY'S POINTERS and send to POLLY'S POINTERS, P.O. Box 93863, Cleveland, OH 44101-5863. — POLLY

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