

'Work smarter, not harder' say Gourmets in new book



by Shirley Whittington

Planning a party involves a lot of list making - as one makes notes of guests' names, of needed groceries and potables, of things to do and when they must be done.

Since these lists are usually compiled separately on the backs of old envelopes and other bits and scraps of paper, coordinating the lists successfully may mean the difference between a harried hostess and a happy one.

Midland's Georgian Bay Gourmets have come up with a complete planning guide.

Their newest publication *Smart Entertaining* takes most of the wrinkles out of party giving. For, as is noted on the back cover of the book, "Organizing is what you do before you do something so that when you do it it's not all mixed up." Thus said A.A. Milne's Christopher Robin, and thus say Anne Parker, Anne Connell, Helen DeCarli, Mary Hunt and Jean Leavens, the Georgian Bay Gourmets.

The smart five, whose credo is "work smarter not harder" suggest planning for a party several

'Organizing is what you do before you do something...'

days ahead. "Pick a quiet time when there will be a minimum of interruption...have all your favourite cookbooks and cookery magazines piled around you...establish priorities and goals."

And make lists. Included in the book are 20 two-paged party planners with spaces to list every detail necessary to guarantee a relaxed hostess and a party that runs smoothly and delightfully.

Beside each space in the guest list column there is a space headed "considerations". Does Mary have an allergy to mushrooms? Does Harold weep uncontrollably in the presence of a live ashtray? This the place to mark down such details.

Menu listings are invited under the traditional headings of hors d'oeuvre, appetizer, soup, entree, salad and dessert. Beside each there's a space for the recipe's source which saves greasy-fingered searches through clipping files as party time draws near.

Also included in the planner is a place to list - in chronological order -- things which can be done ahead of time. The sample page notes items like making clarified beef stock two or three days ahead, and marinating and refrigerating meat the day ahead.

The hostess is also encouraged to organize a countdown in a specially provided space. This timetable begins in the morning ("cut and section grapefruit" says the sample page) and continues right through to "relax in hot tub and get ready" from 4:00 to 6:00 and "make gravy" at 8:40.

The inclusion of a space for "When the party's over" comments suggests that the planner might serve as an interesting social diary ("party broke up at 4:00") as well as a record of what your friends like to eat and drink and how many times you have served Mexican Chicken with Fruits in the past year.

Because the planner lies flat, it can be left open for easy reference on a desk or kitchen counter. Once all the initial organizing steps are followed, a hostess can then spend pre-dinner time with her guests with only occasional forays into the kitchen to consult her timetable.

The party planner, with its several pages of

helpful hints, and twenty blank (and inviting) planning pages is the second Georgian Bay Gourmet publication. Their first, *Winter Entertaining* is now in its third printing.

The planner was introduced at a recent Canadian Booksellers Association convention in Vancouver, and several American publishers clamoured for the rights to the publication. The Gourmets declined. "We would rather keep control of the book ourselves," says Jean Leavens. "Anyway, part of the fun is being in our own company...the Georgian Bay Gourmets."

In October the women will take part in a promotion tour of major cities in Western Canada as well as book shows in London and Ottawa.

The five Georgian Bay Gourmets are now working on their third book -- *Summer Entertaining*. Included will be chapters on June weddings and family reunions, pickling and preserving, picnicking afloat and barbecuing on the sundeck.

Windsor man no. 59 for year

Gregory Coleman, 21, of Windsor, was the 59th person to be charged by Midland town police with impaired driving this year.

The charge stems following an early Sunday morning accident after a car eastbound on Vinden Street left the pavement, struck a town sign, then a light pole, and came to rest on Ninth Street.

In all of 1980, only 52 drivers were charged by Midland town police with impaired driving.

Acquisition

A total of 1,679 books were acquired last year for Midland Public Library, its 1980 annual report shows.

During the same period 501 books were discarded bringing the present stock to 35,329.

Take advantage of the savings during our...

ANNIVERSARY Sale

★ ALL PRESCRIPTION LENSES & FRAMES **25% OFF**

★ BAUSCH & LOMB RAY BAN SUNGLASSES **25% OFF**

•Special anniversary prices effective until Saturday, August 1st

If you have appointments later than August 1st, a deposit during our Anniversary will entitle you to the 25 per cent reductions after the sale.

HURONIA OPTICAL

522 Elizabeth St., Suite 23, Phone **526-8404**



SUMMER SAVING SPECTACULAR

ROOM SIZE REMNANTS 40, 50, 60%

★ 55 Rolls ★ Over 100 remnants to choose from

RUBBER BACK From **\$5.97** Sq.Yd.

NO WAX VINYL From **\$4.97** Sq.Yd.

ONLY 1st Quality Broadloom
1st Quality Prices
1st Quality People

Plus Roby's Personal Guarantee for Customer Satisfaction

5% Senior Citizen Discount
•New Home Owner Discount
•Lifetime Guarantee on Installation
•Mastercard, Visa or Roby's Budget Terms

Simcoe County's Most Reputable Carpet Store



CARPET LAND

Midland on Hwy. 27, next to OPP Station **526-4231**


