2 Hour French Bread (un-failable!)

3 c. flour 1 T. salt

4 pkg. (or 3 T.) instant yeast 3 T. oil

3 T. sugar 2 ½ c. Hot Water

Mix the flour, yeast, sugar and salt. Add the water and the oil. Mix together with a spoon and then add 3 more cups of flour. Mix again. Leave the spoon in the bowl and stir down every 10 minutes for a total of 50 minutes. Dough is ready to use. Roll into bread loaves and let rise until double. Can be brushed with whipped egg whites for a crustier crust. Bake at 400 degrees for 20 minutes. Makes 2 loaves of French bread.

Foods II class uses this recipe for the following giant hot pockets and other products. We then serve our products as a buffet so everyone can try the different variations.

Variation 1: Parmesan Rolls

½ c. margarine or butter, melted

1 c. grated parmesan cheese

1/3 of a recipe of the French bread dough

- 1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- 2. Divide the French bread dough into 24 small pieces and roll into balls. While the dough is being worked mix the melted butter and parmesan together until they resemble paste.
- 3. Take each small roll and roll it through the parmesan butter mixture until well coated. Place each roll on a parchment lined baking sheet and allow to rise for 10 minutes on the stove top. After rising, bake for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown.

Variation 2: Raspberry Jell Roll (courtesy of Jerrie Lin Hansen)

1/4 c. margarine or butter, softened

1 small package Raspberry Jello

1/3 of a recipe of French bread dough

- 1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- 2. Lightly flour the counter and roll the dough out into a rectangle no more than ½ in thick.
- 3. Spread the softened butter on the rolled out dough, making sure that the entire surface is coated.
- 4. Using a clean salt shaker, pour the Jello powder into the shaker and then shake onto the butter coated dough. Use all of it!
- 5. Roll the dough up into a spiral (think cinnamon rolls) and cut into ½ inch pieces with a serrated knife. Place on a parchment lined baking sheet, about 1 finger apart. Allow to rise for 10 minutes on the stove top. After rising, bake for 15-20 minutes or until firm.
- 6. These are really good topped with a powdered sugar glaze 1 c. powdered sugar and 2-3 T. milk.

Variation 3: Pizza Pockets

1 c. Ragu Spaghetti sauce

2 c. shredded Mozzarella

20-30 pieces of pepperoni

1/3 of a recipe of French bread dough

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
- 2. Lightly flour the counter and roll the dough out into a rectangle no more than ½ inch thick.
- 3. On a parchment lined baking sheet, place the dough in the center. In the center of the dough, fill with the Ragu, 1 ½ c. of mozzarella cheese and the pepperoni slices.
- 4. Fold the edges of the dough into the center and pinch to seal. It should look like a very large hot pocket.
- 5. Bake for 16-20 minutes. Serve hot.

Variation 4: Chicken Vegetable Pockets

1 c. cooked cubed chicken 1 c. grated cheddar cheese

1 ½ c. frozen mixed vegetables ½ c. cream of chicken soup

1/4 c. Italian seasoned bread crumbs 1/4 c. butter or margarine, melted

1/3 of a recipe of French bread dough

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
- 2. Lightly flour the counter and roll the dough out into a rectangle no more than ½ inch thick.
- 3. Mix together in a bowl the cooked chicken, frozen vegetables, ½ c. grated cheese, and the cream of chicken soup until well combined.
- 4. On a parchment lined baking sheet, place the dough in the center. In the center of the dough, fill with chicken mixture. Top with the remaining cheese.
- 5. Fold the edges of the dough into the center and pinch to seal. It should look like a very large hot pocket.
- 6. Bake for 16-20 minutes.

Variation 5: Breakfast Pockets

6 eggs 1 c. cubed ham

1 ½ c. grated cheddar cheese

1/3 of a recipe of French bread dough

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
- 2. Lightly flour the counter and roll the dough out into a rectangle no more than ½ inch thick.
- 3. In an electric skillet, scramble the eggs until they are firm. Add the ham and warm through.
- 4. On a parchment lined baking sheet, place the dough in the center. In the center of the dough, fill with the warm egg and ham mixture and 1 c. of the grated cheddar cheese.
- 5. Fold the edges of the dough into the center and pinch to seal. Top with the remaining cheese. It should look like a very large hot pocket.
- 6. Bake for 16-20 minutes.

Variation 6: Sloppy Joe Pockets

1 lb. lean ground beef 1 pkg. sloppy joe seasoning

1(6 oz.) can tomato paste 1/3 of a recipe of French bread dough

1 ½ c. grated cheddar cheese

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

- 2. Lightly flour the counter and roll the dough out into a rectangle no more than ½ inch thick.
- 3. In a saucepan, brown the hamburger and drain off any excess fat. Follow the direction on the seasoning packet and prepare the sloppy joe mixture.
- 4. On a parchment lined baking sheet, place the dough in the center. In the center of the dough, fill with the sloppy joe mixture and 1 c. of the grated cheddar cheese.
- 5. Fold the edges of the dough into the center and pinch to seal. Top with the remaining cheese. It should look like a very large hot pocket.
- 6. Bake for 16-20 minutes.

Variation 7: Taco Pockets

1 lb. lean ground beef 1 pkg. taco seasoning

1/3 of a recipe of French bread dough 1 ½ c. grated cheddar cheese

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

- 2. Lightly flour the counter and roll the dough out into a rectangle no more than ½ inch thick.
- 3. In a saucepan, brown the hamburger and drain off any excess fat. Follow the direction on the seasoning packet and prepare the taco meat mixture.
- 4. On a parchment lined baking sheet, place the dough in the center. In the center of the dough, fill with the taco meat mixture and 1 c. of the grated cheddar cheese.
- 5. Fold the edges of the dough into the center and pinch to seal. Top with the remaining cheese. It should look like a very large hot pocket.
- 6. Bake for 16-20 minutes.