

All Things July 4th

holidays



We always look forward to going to our cabin for the July 4th holiday. It is much cooler in the mountains of Arizona and this area has a nice small town feel. The highlight is the July 4th parade, which started many years ago by a wonderful neighbor who believed this holiday needed proper celebrating.

Parade Cancelled

Yesterday, we received word that the parade is cancelled this year. My heart sank as it is just one more thing to adjust to during this pandemic. Intellectually I understand, but emotionally, I was really looking forward to it. And our governor has imposed a 30-day lockdown...again. But we will prevail and keep our spirits up. What choice do we have.



Not only is this parade quite fun but every year thousands of dollars is raised through t-shirt sales and donations supporting the local fire department. Being in the mountains, our firefighters are true heroes as the threat of devastating fires is common during our hot summer months. I am hoping there is still a way to donate?



Annual Bullfrog Loop Parade

Nonetheless, we will celebrate our independence and freedom in the true spirit of red, white and blue. Today's post is a compilation of patriotic celebrations over the past few years. Since I barely know what day it is, I haven't thought ahead on how I will set the table nor what foods I will prepare. But

for some reason, like Christmas, it all comes together, right?



Patriotic Brunch

Our July 4th morning starts with a patriotic brunch and I do serve the same dishes every year. Perhaps I should try something new but these recipes continue to be crowd pleasers.

The egg casserole can be served hot or cold~it's delicious either way. Hard to believe I shared this with you in 2016! Click [here](#) for the recipe.



Egg Casserole

A tried and true coffee cake recipe can be adjusted each year depending on what fruit you have. My 2017 recipe includes raspberries, but it can be made with peaches, pears, apples, or blueberries. Click [here](#) for the recipe.



Since we need our fruits and vegetables there is always a green salad and a fruit salad. Our guests tend to linger after the parade so I make a charcuterie board for nibbling. Ha! I just realized I made a 6 pointed star vs. a 5 pointed star with the cheese! I get an A for effort...Here's the [link](#) to the charcuterie board.



Can't have brunch without a dessert! I was rather ambitious in 2018 when I baked this impressive red, white and blue 8 layer American Flag cake. First of all, I am never going to do this again, as baking in high altitudes is not one of my strengths. But surprisingly, it did taste very good! Here is the [link](#) to

that post.



What is July 4th without cherry pie? I have yet to master the perfect cherry pie, but I hope to try my friend Gwen's recipe this year. It is my husband's favorite.



Typically I set up brunch around the kitchen island so guests can go in and out of the house, eat, watch the parade, eat some more, watch the parade. But with no parade, we will more than likely sit down at the table on the outdoor covered porch. Here are a few pictures from previous events.

The Table



July 2019



Memorial Day 2019



Memorial Day 2020

July 4th is a very important holiday. We often take for granted our independence and freedom. On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States as an independent nation began.

We live in an amazing country and I will proudly display many flags. Let's all remember what the flag symbolizes: white signifies purity and innocence; red, hardiness and valor; and blue signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice. Long may she wave.



What are you doing to celebrate the 4th of July? My next post will be from the mountains! Happy Wednesday, my friends!

Mary

Today's post shared with [Charming Cottages and Gardens](#)
and Centerpiece Wednesday Linky Party at [Karins Kottage](#)