

Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser



October is one of my favorite months. My big rush to preserve the garden produce is over and I can still sit outside to hull the lima beans. As I sit on the ground on the south side of my kitchen, I notice the big, bright colored zinnias and marigolds that Cindy planted this

summer. After years of 4-H Flower Projects, it is hard to break the habit of planting flowers in the spring. They have given me many bouquets for the dining room table and for elderly aunts at a nearby retirement home. Even neighbors got flowers when I gave them some

of my over abundance of tomatoes, cucumbers and Chinese cabbage.

An orange and white kitten plays nearby, it had been dropped off at a summer cottage, and I enjoy its antics as it rolls in the grass. As I glance over the still green garden, I think of the work yet to be done this fall. My houseplants must be potted and put in the house on the wide windowsills to be enjoyed this winter. Some iris should be replanted as the beds are too crowded.

I also think of the newspaper article that I could write tomorrow. My trusty old typewriter is over 40 years old but still does the job for me and so I've put off getting an expensive electric one that might fail me. And, there is a much older typewriter in the attic that a great uncle bought for me when I went to business college in Lancaster.

However, I did buy one modern

appliance recently. We now have a portable television set on the kitchen counter. So far it is only used in the evening when my husband and I might want to see different programs. My idea of

entertainment isn't to watch a baseball or football game for hours. I'd much sooner sit on my favorite chair and read or take a walk in the woods.

Survey Shows Most Americans Eat Chicken

LANCASTER — Chicken is served in 96 percent of adult households in this country and in 69 percent it is served at least once a week, according to a new Gallup consumer survey.

Price and taste are two chief attractions of chicken, with 40 percent of those interviewed saying the main reason they buy

chicken is because it is economical and 36 percent noting "good taste" as their primary reason for serving chicken.

The survey, conducted by Gallup for the National Broiler Council, showed that consumers are about evenly split between buying fresh chicken whole or in parts. Forty-nine percent purchase whole chicken and 47 buy just parts. Chicken breasts are the most frequently purchased parts, followed by legs.

Baking and frying are the favorite ways of cooking chicken. Consumers who purchase chicken primarily because it is nutritious or because it is low in calories are more likely to bake it. Those who say taste is their main reason for buying chicken prefer to fry it.

The study of consumer use and attitudes toward chicken was conducted by telephone among a national representative sample of approximately 1000 adults during a two-week period in June. Other findings include:

— younger households tend to buy parts while older people lean toward whole uncut chicken

— almost a third (23%) serve chicken two or more times per week and four percent serve it at least four times a week.

— those who buy just chicken parts are least likely to purchase wings and chicken quarters

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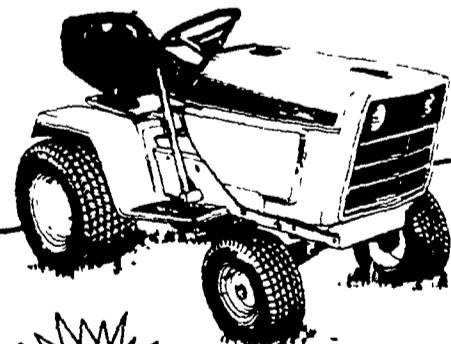
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