

## Ida's Notebook

Ida Risser

Did you ever hear of a calf with wanderlust? Well, my son and daughter-in-law have one on our dairy farm.

A few weeks ago this animal jumped over a high fence surrounding its hutch and disappeared in the dusk. The next day my husband walked every inch of

our one hundred acres but could find no trace of it. I believe we have all resigned ourselves to the fact that it was gone forever.

However, a few days later we learned through an Amish family that another Amish family had an extra calf. Somehow it had man-

aged to swim across the Conestoga River. After it was brought home, it again decided to leave but this time it was a bit earlier in the evening and so three people were able to corner it in a faraway field. I guess that from now on it will have to be confined to the heifer barn.

The other week our church had a very large garage sale to benefit a Habitat House that they are sponsoring. My contribution to the sale was about 20 flower plants. Some were houseplants but others were perennials such as hosta lilies, golden glow and bee balm. These are all plants that multiply rapidly and therefore should be shared. Of course, I had to buy some plants to bring home with me.

There was one large table with table lamps, two with books, two with toys, one with jewelry and so much more—even furniture and bicycles were for sale. On the appliance table I found an electric frying pan and when I inquired as to the price, I was very surprised—.50¢. Since I needed one and they cost fifty dollars, I bought it. It is even a bit larger than my previous ones.

## Cook's Question

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**ANSWER** — Edith Vuxta, Elizabethtown, wanted a recipe for red velvet whoopie pies. Thanks to Anna Joyce Martin, East Earl, and others for sending recipes.

### Red Velvet Whoopie Pies

- ½ cup shortening
- 1½ cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 ounces red food coloring
- 2 tablespoons baking cocoa
- 1½ teaspoon baking soda
- 3½ cups flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 tablespoon vinegar

Make a paste of chocolate and food coloring. Set aside. Cream shortening, sugar, and eggs. Add cocoa mixture and vanilla. Beat at medium speed for several minutes. Add flour, salt, and buttermilk alternately to mixture. Beat several minutes at medium speed. Fold in baking soda and vinegar. Do not beat. Drop by tablespoonfuls on cookie sheets. Bake at 350 degrees for 12 to 15 minutes or until done.

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