

As the Belly Bloats

A Chronicle of Rhonda Corkern's Pregnancy 10/11/87

A message from Rhonda

Hello, everyone! In the interests of saving time this Thanksgiving (I plan to be extremely busy eating), we decided to publish this little newsletter to let everybody know what's happening. The main purpose will be to let everyone know what's happening with my pregnancy, but we will be boring you with other news also. If you still have questions, please don't call at mealtimes.

I guess the biggest news is my pregnancy. In my thirteenth week, I've only gained four pounds, which is amazing considering how much I eat. I eat every hour on the hour, and at 9:30, 1:15, 3:45, and 8:30. When Bruce wakes up, there are more dirty dishes in the sink from overnight than there used to be for a whole week!

This "morning sickness" (how did it ever get that name?) has been with me since about the fourth week, and we're all getting pretty much used to it. It's just a regular routine, like brushing my

teeth, eating Bruce out of house and home, and washing my face.

Wednesday, October 7th I went to the doctor for a regular check-up. Everything was fine, except that I was a little anemic, so he prescribed some iron pills to take three times daily. Bruce and I both heard the baby's heartbeat.

Bruce has gained about eight pounds himself since we found out we're pregnant. He's been going to a health club for a couple or three weeks, and has gained weight steadily ever since. I can't figure out how he's gained so much...we were talking about it the other day over breakfast-three pancakes with peanut butter, two eggs, grits, coffee and orange juice.

Well, that's about it for the pregnant news...I'll be reporting back later, unless we have to sell Bruce's computer to buy more FOOD!!

The day we found out for sure that we're pregnant, I was offered a new job in Florence. As of about two months ago, I've been working part-time for Dr. Wolfe, a new dentist in Florence. At first there were a lot of patients, but I haven't been seeing that many lately. Perhaps the word is getting around about my constant throwing up...no, not really, I haven't been sick on a patient yet (yet!).

Liz is switching jobs also. She's getting off the night shift, and will be filling in at different jobs in the hospital. One of the fill-in jobs will be in Florence at the clinic..

Vacations

We flew to Cancun, Mexico this summer for vacation. The original plan was to go to Florida one week, but Bruce called on the spur of the moment and got tickets to Cancun instead. We flew down from New Orleans on Sunday, and came back Thursday. Of course, the water and the beach were beautiful, but the people were also nice, which surprised me. We took Bruce's parents' camcorder, but we didn't film much because we were scared it would be stolen. We mostly laid on the beach, ate and went shopping. When we went snorkeling, the water was so clear you could see about 20 feet down to the bottom. The fish were gorgeous and not scared of a snorkeler at all.

The restaurants were good AND cheap. Unfortunately, Montezuma's revenge is very real, even though all the water in that area is supposedly purified. You still eat fruit and other things that were grown with that water. We stayed in a very nice condo and really enjoyed the whole trip.

Sunday, October the 18th, we plan to visit Aunt Carolyn and Uncle Chris and Bobby in Greenville, TN. (Editors note: I would advise you to buy stock in any restaurants along the route.) On the way back, we're meeting some friends in Memphis for a USM ballgame. We're also going to New Orleans this fall with some other friends (Bruce's company has an apartment down there) since I'll have to miss Mardi Gras next year.

Note: This newsletter was produced on Bruce's computer at home with desktop publishing software, and printed on a laser printer at his office. What's really hard to believe is that Bruce gets paid for learning silly stuff like how to do this!

(Over...)

Recipes

AppleSomething?

Ingredients:

1/2 stick butter or margarine
 2 cu sugar
 2 cu H₂O
 1 1/2 cu sifted self rising flour
 1/2 cu shortening
 1/3 cu milk
 2 cu chopped apple
 1 tsp cinnamon

- Heat oven to 350.
- Melt butter in a 13x9x2 baking dish.
- Heat sugar and water in sauce pan on low heat until sugar melts.
- Cut shortening into flour until fine.
- Add milk and stir until dough leaves side of bowl, put on lightly floured surface and kneed until smooth.
- Roll into large rectangular shape about 1/2" in thickness.
- Place apples evenly on dough and then sprinkle cinnamon evenly over apples.

- Now, roll up like a jelly roll. Dampen edge of dough with water to seal it.
- Slice into about 16 slices about 1/2" thick.
- Place in baking dish with melted butter.
- Now pour sugar water carefully on top and around the 16 slices. (*Don't panic, it's not too much liquid.*)
- Bake 55-60 minutes.
- Verygood!!!!

ChocolateChipCookie Something?

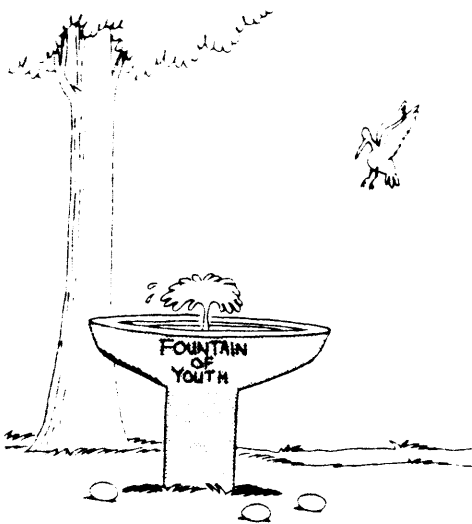
Ingredients:

Chocolate chip cookies
 Vanilla Ice cream
 Caramel sauce

- Crumble cookies on bottom in 13X9X2 baking dish.
- Put ice cream on top of that, then pour caramel sauce on top of ice cream.
- Sprinkle more cookie crumbs on top.
- Freeze and then EAT!!!!

Latebreaking news

- **Sunday** - As Bruce and I were walking in the woods, we saw a turkey! He was gone in about 5 seconds, but we got a pretty good look at him. There were too many branches and trees for him to fly away, but he just outran us.
- **Thursday** - Last night I had to go to the hospital. Earlier I had eaten some uncooked carrots, broccoli, and apples, and I woke up throwing that stuff up. My throat hurt, but I went back to bed. Around midnight, I woke up again and my throat felt like something was stuck in it. I've had a sore throat before from throwing up, but nothing like this. We had to go to the emergency room to check it out, and the doctor said I probably had a cut or tear in my throat. It's just about healed now, but we didn't get home until 3:00 in the morning.
- **Sunday** - That last episode may have been the grand finale. I wasn't sick yesterday, and so far haven't been sick today.



Wanted:

NEW PARENTS

Lately my mother won't even pet me and my daddy won't quit bugging me. Dad's having to change the litter box while Momma's pregnant, so service has really fallen off. Supposedly we'll have a new child around in April, and frankly, I want out NOW! There's talk of me staying outside at night when the baby comes, which I feel is out of the question. Call Caddo at (601) 845-3485 during the day. If a human answers, **HANG UP!**