

## May 2023 Event Traditional Chinese Meal Created by Efrain Raices

First Course: Dumplings a la Efrain

Second Course: Hot and Numbing Prawns
Family Style Main Course:

Beef with Cumin

Braised Ribs with Potatoes

Gai Lan with Oyster Sauce

Steamed Rice

Dessert: Fresh Pineapple and Chinese Cakes



## First Course: Dumplings a la Efrain

#### Serves 24

INGREDIENTS	2 TBSP soy
2 1/2 pounds ground pork	2 TBSP hoisin
24 scallions	6 TBSP sesame oil
8 TBSP ginger	4 TBSP corn starch
16 garlic cloves	2 TBSP salt
4 TBSP light soy	5 packages Northern style dumpling wrappers

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Process scallions in mini food processor.

Chop or process garlic and add to the scallions.

Mix all ingredients well.

continue to mix ingredients going either clockwise or counter for a couple of minutes.

This creates protein extraction and makes the filling "smoother" rather than "crumbly".

Make dumplings.

I've found that folding them like tortellini keeps the wrapper a little firmer, which is a nicer texture.

#### **NOTES**

Use Northern Style Dumpling wrappers.

boil for 15 minutes, then pan fry until one side is crisp.



### **Second Course: Hot and Numbing Prawns**

#### Serves 24

INGREDIENTS	12 inch piece of Ginger unpeeled
6 pounds Head on Prawns	12 scallions white and green parts
4 1/2 cup All Purpose Flour	FOR THE SEASONING
peanut oil for frying	12 Tbsp. Peanut Oil
FOR THE MARINADE	6 - 18 Sichuanese ground Chilis
3 tsp salt	3 -9 tsp ground toasted Sichuan
6 Tbsp. Shaoxing Rice Wine	Peppercorns

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Rub the prawns with salt and wine. Slightly crush the ginger and scallions with the side of a cleaver and roughly chop them. Add to the prawns. Let marinate for 15 minutes.

Heat the oil for deep frying to 375 degrees. While its heating, remove the ginger and scallions from the marinade and drain the prawns in a colander. Toss them in the flour making sure they are evenly coated.

Fry the prawns in batches if necessary until they are crisp. Remove and drain.

When the prawns are ready, heat 2 Tbsp. of oil in a clean wok over moderate flame. Add the ground chilis and stir fry briefly until the oil is red and fragrant taking great care not to let it burn. Add the Sichuan Peppercorns and mix well. Then throw in all the prawns and toss briskly to distribute the spices evenly. Serve immediately.



**Main Course: Traditional Chinese Meal** 

First Dish: Beef with Cumin

Serves 24

#### **INGREDIENTS**

72 oz beef

6 tablespoon ginger-finely chopped

6 tablespoon garlic-finely chopped

12 fresh red chili-seeds and stems

discarded and finely chopped

6 tablespoon dried chili flakes

6 tablespoon ground cumin

12 scallions -green parts only finely

sliced

6 tablespoon sesame oil

10 1/2 cups peanut oil for frying

For the Marinade:

6 tablespoon Shaoxing wine

3 teaspoon salt

6 teaspoon light soy

6 teaspoon dark soy

6 tablespoon potato flour

6 tablespoon water

#### DIRECTIONS

Cut the beef across the grain into thin slices.

Add the marinade ingredients and mix well. Set aside until ready.

Heat the oil to about 275 degrees. Add the beef and stir gently.

As soon as the pieces have separated, remove them from the oil, drain well and set aside.

Pour off all but about 3 tablespoons of the oil.

Over a high flame add the ginger, garlic, fresh chili, chili flakes and cumin and stir fry briefly until fragrant.

Return beef to the wok and stir well, seasoning with salt to taste. When all the ingredients are sizzlingly fragrant add the scallion greens and toss briefly. Remove from the heat, stir in the sesame oil and serve.

#### Second Dish: Braised Ribs with Potatoes

INGREDIENTS	4 1/2 tbsp. minced garlic
7 7 /8 lbs. ribs	4 1/2 tbsp. light soy sauce
18 scallions, divided	4 1/2 tbsp. Chinese cooking wine
9 tbsp. cooking oil	(Shaoxing wine)
9 tbsp. doubanjiang	4 1/2 tsp. rock sugar
4 1/2 tbsp. douchi (fermented black	9 star anises
beans)	salt and pepper
54 slices of ginger	4 1/2 pounds potatoes

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Place the ribs in a deep pot with enough water to cover. Add scallion in. Bring to a boiling and then cook for 1-2 minutes. Transfer out and clean with warm water. Drain and set aside.

Prepare a clay pot or stew pot, add around 2 tablespoons of oil and fry doubanjiang over slow fire until the oil turns slightly red. This is a very important step to remove the raw taste from doubanjiang.

Add ginger, garlic and fermented black beans and cook for a few minutes.

Add the ribs in and let them stay for a while until slightly browned. Add light soy sauce, cooking wine, sugar, star anise and scallion and fry for another 1-2 minutes.

Pour enough warm water to just cover and add small potatoes in or quartered potatoes, if using. Cover the lid and simmer for 20 minutes until the potatoes are well softened. Uncover and continue cooking for 10 minutes until the sauce is reduced.

Scoop braised ribs along with the juice.

# Third Dish: Gai Lan Blanched Chinese Broccoli with Oyster Sauce

INGREDIENTS	Sauce:
40 ounces Chinese broccoli (gai lan)	12 tablespoons chicken broth or water
4 teaspoon salt	8 tablespoons oyster sauce
4 teaspoon baking soda 4 slice ginger (about 1/2-inch thick)	4 tablespoon Chinese rice wine or dry sherry 2 teaspoon sugar

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Wash the Chinese broccoli. Cut off the ends if not already trimmed and cut into bitesized pieces (about 2 inches long).

In a large saucepan, add enough water to cover the broccoli. Add the salt, baking soda and ginger. Bring to a boil.

While waiting for the water to boil, prepare the sauce. Combine the chicken broth or water, oyster sauce, rice wine or dry sherry and sugar. Bring to a boil in a pot

Turn the heat down and keep warm while blanching the broccoli.

Add the Chinese broccoli to the boiling water. Cook until the stalks are tender but crisp (3 - 4 minutes). Rinse in cold running water. Drain.

Pour the sauce over the broccoli. Serve immediately.