

Recipe for a FABULOUS Back to the Beach Weekend. (Serves approximately 200.)

Prep time: 361 days. Cook time: 4 days.

Ingredients:

Begin with Old Orchard Beach, a friendly and welcoming city in Maine.
Toss in a glorious beach, and add mostly sunny weather.

Take 1 Al, 4 Alans, 1 Andy, 1 Art, 1 Barry, 4 Bills, 7 Bobs, 1 Brian, 2 Bruces, 1 Buddy, 1 Burt, 1 Byron, 1 Cam, 1 Chad, 2 Dans, 4 Daves, 4 Davids, 1 Del, 2 Dennis, 1 Derek, 1 Dick, 1 Don, 2 Franks, 2 Freds, 1 George, 1 Glen, 1 Greg, 1 Howard, 1 Howie, 1 Jack, 1 James, 1 Jason, 1 Jeffrey, 1 Jerry, 6 Jims, 6 Joes, 1 Johns, 1 Joseph, 1 Kenny, 1 Kevin, 1 Lance, 3 Larrys, 1 Lee, 1 Martin, 1 Matt, 4 Mikes, 2 Pauls, 1 Peter, 1 Phil, 1 Ralph, 1 Randy, 1 Rezo, 1 Richard, 1 Rick, 2 Rons, 1 Sam, 1 Scott, 1 Skip, 1 Stan, 2 Steves, 1 Steven, 1 Tom, 1 Tony, 1 Vic, 1 Vin, 1 Vinny, 2 Walters, 1 Wayne, and 2 Williams.

Combine with:

1 Ann, 2 Arlenes, 2 Barbs, 1 Camille, 1 Candace, 4 Carols, 1 Caroline, 1 Carolyn, 1 Cecilia, 1 Cheryl, 2 Cindys, 1 Claudia, 1 Colleen, 1 Crystal, 2 Dawns, 2 Debs, 2 Debbies, 1 Dee, 1 Dena, 4 Dianes, 1 Dianne, 1 Donna, 1 Eileen, 2 Elaines, 1 Erika, 1 Erin, 1 Geri, 1 Gretchen, 1 Jackie, 1 Jamie, 1 Jane, 4 Janets, 1 Joan, 1 JoAnn, 2 Joannes, 1 Judie, 2 Judys, 1 Julie, 4 Karens, 4 Kathys, 1 Kelly, 1 Kim, 1 Laurie, 1 Lila, 5 Lindas, 1 Lisa, 1 Mal, 1 Marcia, 1 Maria, 1 Mary, 1 Maryann, 1 Meredith, 1 Michelle, 1 Michele, 2 Nancys, 1 Nina, 1 Odie, 2 Pams, 1 Rachael, 1 Robin, 1 Rosemary, 1 Ruth, 1 Sandie, 1 Scharlee, 1 Shara, 2 Sharons, 1 Sheila, 1 Shirl, 1 Simone, 1 Stella, 2 Sues, 1 Taylor, 1 Terry, 1 Toni, 1 Tonya, 1 Ursula, 1 Verna, 1 Vivian, and 2 Wendys.

Add: Approximately 120 Chevrolet Corvettes of various years, colors and styles.

Add: a dozen or more Corvette clubs and numerous independents.

Be sure to include one Jim Martley, a very talented photographer always willing to document all steps of the recipe. Season well with experience and humor.

Divide among four immaculate and hospitable hotels. Shake some of the people onto the beach and some into the pools. Allow others to sit around on patios and visit with friends.





Take early-arriving people and toss with a lobster bake on the beach. Add steak if necessary. Watch carefully as people ooh and ahh their way through the wonderful food. Do not allow them to overstuff.



On at least two occasions, send people to the Rock 'n Roll Diner for doses of old-fashioned comfort food, nostalgia and generous raffle giveaways.



Twice a day move the people to the Captain's Galley Restaurant and allow the friendly servers to stuff them completely with hearty breakfasts and delicious dinners. On both Friday and Saturday nights, spread great music from DJ Jeff Jarvis over all ingredients.



If desired, add one lobster or harbor cruise. Count participants carefully so none fall overboard...you will need all ingredients for later steps.

On Saturday, insert the humans into the Corvettes and move to Old Orchard Street in downtown OOB, arranging them row-by-row. Mix well with admiring tourists and interested local residents. Add ice cream as desired. Leave display in place to simmer under gentle sun with temperature set in the mid-70s for approximately 90 minutes. Allow 12 Old Orchard Beach firefighters to arrange for hook and ladder truck to facilitate bird's-eye-view photos of display.



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When display is complete, drive the Corvettes single file in a parade through the streets of Old Orchard Beach, adding almost the entire OOB Police Department to make the parade smooth. Mix in many admiring people on sidewalks. Include at least 50% small children. Occasionally drop Corvettes into neutral and rev engines to show off. Toot horns at anyone waving American flags.



Allow time for all ingredients to cool, then mix them again at the Captain's Galley for an awards banquet. Toss in a multitude of raffle prizes, an auction for an autographed Red Sox jersey, numerous trophies, and more great music.

At some point during the weekend, sprinkle generously with rain, as required by tradition. If desired, add many people with towels after the rain and mix them with the wet Corvettes. No time limit on this step.



Say you saw it in



At all times while preparing this recipe, keep Ralph and Sandie nearby to watch over every phase and to add the right amount of concern and supervision. Sandie will automatically add just the perfect amount of spice!

When done, divide among all participants, enjoy, and repeat annually.

Nutritional information: Calories: varies, depending on ice cream additions. Fat content: depends on number of beach walks. Helps maintain healthy friendships and warm hearts.