

2019 Holiday Gift Baskets and Baked Goods

by Valerye Strochak

**Welcome** to the 2019 Holiday Season! I am pleased to present my 2019 Menu. For the 23rd (!) year I am offering a selection of delicious baked goods, all baked with the utmost care and using the finest ingredients available. They are then beautifully packaged so as to delight the recipient. You may also order items unwrapped to serve at your own holiday table. These baskets make great holiday gifts for teachers, team coaches and managers, business associates, clients, neighbors, friends and family.

THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS DECEMBER 3 (NOVEMBER 25 FOR COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES).

A portion of this year's profits will be donated to World Central Kitchen. WCK provides meals to communities in the immediate aftermath of natural (and sometimes manmade) disasters, and also helps to create food resiliency in these communities with their "Plow to Plate" and "Sink to Stove" programs. I have long been an admirer of WCK's founder, chef Jose Andres, and had the pleasure of meeting him when I and my son volunteered in the Chefs for Feds program last January.

## **COOKIE CREATIONS**

Note: You can order cookies by the dozen, half-dozen or even quarter-dozen.

THEY'RE BACK Checkerboard Cookies Best of both worlds—rich vanilla and chocolate shortbread dough, in an elegant checkerboard	\$10/dozen pattern.
Raspberry Almond Thumbprint Almond-flavored shortbread cookies with raspberry jam centers	\$10/dozen
Russian Tea Cakes The traditional nut cookie (made with pecans) rolled in powdered sugar—twice!	\$10/dozen
Butter Pecan Rounds Shortbread cookies with toasted pecans and toffee bits	\$10/dozen
Chocolate-Dipped Hazelnut-Espresso Stars A thin, crispy cookie dipped in dark chocolate.	\$10/dozen
Cranberry-Pistachio Shortbread Orange zest, dried cranberries and roasted pistachios in a shortbread cookie	\$10/dozen
Rum Praline Shortbread A thin, crispy shortbread cookie, made with praline pecans and rum	\$10/dozen
Shortbread Traditional Scottish shortbread—rich and crumbly, cut into wedges	\$10/8 pieces
Chocolate-Drizzled Peanut Butter Cookies Grown-up version of Peanut Butter Blossoms.	\$12/dozen
Chocolate Peppermint Crackles Another classic combination. A rich, dark chocolate cookie, laced with peppermint., and rolled in confectioner's sugar.	\$12/dozen
Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal Cookies The ultimate comfort cookie—with a hint of nutmeg	\$12/dozen
Dark Chocolate Chip Cookies with Dried Cherries and Pecans A thick and chewy chocolate chip cookie with a rich toffee flavor	\$12/dozen
Eggnog Snickerdoodles The classic but with nutmeg and rum flavorings, dusted with powdered sugar	\$12/dozen
Midnight Espresso Crackles A dark chocolate cookie with a hint of espresso and cappuccino chips	\$12/dozen
Molasses Crinkles with White Chocolate and Candied Ginger The most requested cookie. This cookie tastes like Christmas!	\$12/dozen
Rugelach—Apricot-Walnut-Raisin or Chocolate-Raspberry The traditional Jewish crescent cookie, made with a rich and tender cream cheese dough.	\$12/dozen
White Chocolate Chip Cookies with Dried Cherries and Toffee Bits A thin and crispy cookie. First place winner at the 2008 Montgomery County Fair	\$12/dozen
Linzer Sandwiches Hazelnut shortbread sandwich cookie, with the traditional cut-out on top and raspberry or aprice	\$15/dozen ot jam

# **DECORATED COOKIES**

Black Forest Linzer Sandwiches

Chocolate Mittens Nutmeg Christmas Trees Gingerbread House (Cookie)

\$2.50 each or \$24/dozen



\$15/dozen

#### **CANDY**

Tipsy Turtle Bark Chocolate, caramel, pecans and rum—irresistible!	\$4.00/¼ pound
Chocolate Peppermint Bark Layers of Dark and White Chocolate, with crushed candy canes and Oreos	\$4.00/1/4 pound
Fudge Chocolate, Caramel Pecan, Mocha	\$3.50/½ pound
Spiced Pecans with Warm Rum Glaze	\$3.00/¼ pound
Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn with Pecans and Dried Cranberries	\$3.50/1/4 pound

#### **BAKED GOODS**

Scones (Cranberry-Orange or Cinnamon-Raisin) \$8.00/dozen

Breads

Medium Loaf \$4.00 each Large \$6.00 each

(Gingerbread, Pumpkin Streusel, Plain Pumpkin, Cranberry-Orange-Pecan, Banana-Chocolate Chip

#### Dark Chocolate-Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake

\$6.00 each

Yes, we know all the jokes about fruitcake. But this fruitcake will blow your mind. It is one of our most popular items. A moist, rich, dark chocolate cake, with dried cherries, chocolate chunks, black cherry jam and kirsch liqueur. Then soaked in more kirsch. Once you've tasted it, you'll crave it.



#### HOW TO ORDER:

Please email me your order at vstrochak@gmail.com. Include

- the number of baskets in your order
- either a dollar amount for the basket, name of basket, or a list of the items you would like to go in the basket:
- which baskets are to be picked up and which are to be mailed.

If you have baskets that are to be mailed, please include:

- the name(s) and address(es) of the recipient(s)
- •wording for the gift card that will be enclosed in your basket.

If you are picking up your order, please include

•the date(s) you would like to pick up (from the list of dates below).

You may choose the items to go in your basket or choose from one of the baskets described in the enclosed insert. We have designed baskets for every price point, and have also baskets designed for every preference: the chocoholic, the coffee lover, the toffee lover, the mint aficionado. We also offer small "teacher" or "neighbor" gifts in a variety of fun packaging ranging from \$6 to \$15. Finally, for the college student in your life, we offer college care packages. College care packages are mailed the first week of December, and have a limited menu, described on the last page of this brochure.

If you are ordering items for yourself ("by the piece"), there are no wrapping charges. Please indicate which items do not need to be wrapped as gifts.

#### Please note:

- Orders that are being shipped will be packed in special holiday themed boxes.
- Shipping charges are additional and will be added to your bill
- There is a \$5 handling fee added to orders that are being shipped (to cover the cost of labor and shipping supplies)
- For baskets not listed in this brochure, there is an additional 10% wrapping surcharge.

In most cases you will be billed in January. I cannot prepare bills in December.

#### **Deadlines for ordering:**

For College Care Packages: NOVEMBER 25, 2019
All other orders: DECEMBER 3, 2019

Pickup Dates (orders are ready after 4 pm on the following days):

Friday, December 13 Thursday, December 19 Tuesday, December 17

Please email me with any questions or comments. I look forward to hearing from you.

## Small (Teacher) Gifts \$5-\$12

Attractively Packaged for Gift-Giving

Dark Chocolate Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake	\$6.00
Half-Dozen Molasses Crinkles with White Chocolate and Candied Ginger	\$7.00
1/2 Pound Praline Popcorn	\$7.00
1/2 Pound Chocolate-Almond Toffee	\$7.00
1/2 Pound Chocolate-Peppermint or Tipsy Turtle Bark	\$8.00
1 1/2 Dozen Russian Teacakes	\$12.00
I dozen assorted cookies (Molasses Crinkles, Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,	\$12.00
Dark Chocolate Chip, Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal)	

### **BASKETS**

## \$15 Basket

- 1 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles, 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal)
- 1 Decorated Cookie

### \$20 Basket

- 1 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles, 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal)
- 1 Decorated Cookie
- 1 Small Bread (Pumpkin or Banana-Chocolate Chip)

#### \$25 Basket

- 1 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal)
- 2 Decorated Cookies
- 1 Small Bread (Pumpkin or Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/4 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn

### \$30 Basket

- 1 1/2 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal, 6 Butter Pecan Rounds)
- 2 Decorated Cookies
- 1 Small Bread (Pumpkin or Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/4 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn

#### \$35 Basket

- 1 1/2 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal, 6 Butter Pecan Rounds)
- 2 Decorated Cookies
- 1 Small Bread (Pumpkin OR Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/4 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn
- 1/4 Pound Tipsy Turtle OR Chocolate-Peppermint Bark

#### \$40 Basket

- 1 1/2 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal, 6 Butter Pecan Rounds)
- 2 Decorated Cookies
- 1 Small Bread (Pumpkin OR Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/4 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn
- 1/4 Pound Tipsy Turtle OR Chocolate-Peppermint Bark
- 1 Dark Chocolate Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake

# \$45 Basket

- 2 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal, 6 Butter Pecan Rounds, 6 Russian Tea Cakes)
- 2 Decorated Cookies
- 1 Small Bread (Pumpkin OR Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/4 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn
- 1/4 Pound Tipsy Turtle OR Chocolate-Peppermint Bark
- 1 Dark Chocolate Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake

#### \$50 Basket

- 2 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal, 6 Butter Pecan Rounds, 6 Russian Tea Cakes)
- 2 Decorated Cookies
- 1 Large Bread (Pumpkin OR Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/2 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn
- 1/4 Pound Tipsy Turtle OR Chocolate-Peppermint Bark
- 1 Dark Chocolate Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake

## \$60 Basket

- 2 1/2 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal, 6 Butter Pecan Rounds,
- 6 Russian Tea Cakes, 6 Eggnog Snickerdoodles)
- 2 Decorated Cookies
- 1 Large Bread (Pumpkin OR Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/2 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn
- 1/2 Pound Tipsy Turtle OR Chocolate-Peppermint Bark
- 1 Dark Chocolate Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake

#### \$75 Basket

- 2 1/2 dozen cookies (3 Molasses Crinkles, 3 Chocolate-Peppermint Crackles,
- 3 Dark Chocolate Chip, 3 Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal, 6 Butter Pecan Rounds,
- 6 Russian Tea Cakes, 6 Eggnog Snickerdoodles)
- 3 Decorated Cookies
- 2 Large Bread (Pumpkin and Banana-Chocolate Chip)
- 1/2 lb Chocolate-Drizzled Praline Popcorn
- 1/2 Pound Tipsy Turtle OR Chocolate-Peppermint Bark
- 1/2 Pound Chocolate-Almond Toffee
- 1 Dark Chocolate Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake

## **SPECIALTY BASKETS**

# Chocolate Lover's Basket \$40.00

1/2 dozen Dark Chocolate Chip Cookies

1/2 dozen Midnight Espresso Crackles

1/4 pound Chocolate Fudge

1/4 pound Bark (either kind)

1/2 pound Chocolate Drizzled Praline Popcorn

1 small Banana-Chocolate Chip Bread

1 Chocolate Kirsch and Dried Cherry Fruitcake

# <u>Coffee Lover's Basket</u>

\$30.00

1 dozen Midnight Espresso Crackles

I dozen Chocolate-Dipped Hazelnut Espresso Stars

1/2 pound Mocha Fudge

# Flavors of Christmas Basket \$50.00

1/2 Dozen Molasses Crinkles

1/2 Dozen Chocolate Peppermint Crackles

1/2 Dozen Eggnog Snickerdoodles

1 dozen Russian Tea Cakes

1 dozen Cranberry-Pistachio Shortbread

1/4 Pound Tipsy Turtle Bark

1 Large Gingerbread

# The Candy Cane Basket

\$25.00

1 dozen Chocolate Peppermint Crackles 1/2 pound Chocolate-Peppermint Bark

# <u>Toffee Lovers' Basket</u>

\$35.00

1 dozen Butter Pecan Rounds

1 dozen White Chocolate Chip Cookies with Dried

Cherries and Toffee Bits

1/2 Pound Chocolate-Almond Toffee

1/4 Pound Caramel-Pecan Fudge

# Crazy for Shortbread

\$40.00

1 dozen Shortbread

1 dozen Cranberry-Pistachio Shortbread

1 dozen Rum-Praline Shortbread

1/2 dozen Butter Pecan Rounds

1 dozen Raspberry-Almond Thumbprints

# Cookie Tray

\$40.00

4 dozen assorted cookies presented on tray—perfect for taking to a party.

YOU MAY MAKE SUBSTITUTIONS/ADDITIONS TO ANY OF THESE BASKETS—WE WILL ADJUST THE PRICE ACCORDINGLY. THE 10% WRAPPING FEE IS INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THESE BASKETS.



# College Care Packages

Let your college student know how much you care about them! These packages will be mailed either the first or second week of December. The is a limited selection of items available, and items will be packed in boxes (not baskets). There will be a flat wrapping fee of \$2.00 for the care packages, plus shipping.

The items that can be ordered for the care packages are:

## \$4.00/6.00

Pumpkin Bread (medium or large)
Banana Chocolate-Chip Bread (medium or large)

## \$5.00

M&M Cookie Bars (1 small pan; approximately 8 bars)

## \$8.00

Butter Pecan Rounds (1 dozen) Chocolate-Peppermint Bark (1/2 lb)

### \$12.00

Chocolate Chip Cookies (1 dozen)
White Chocolate Chip Cookies (1 dozen)
Cranberry-Orange Oatmeal Cookie (1 dozen)

## \$10.00

Praline Popcorn (1 lb)

The deadline for ordering is Monday, November 25. Please specify when you would like your student to receive his/her package.