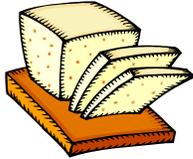
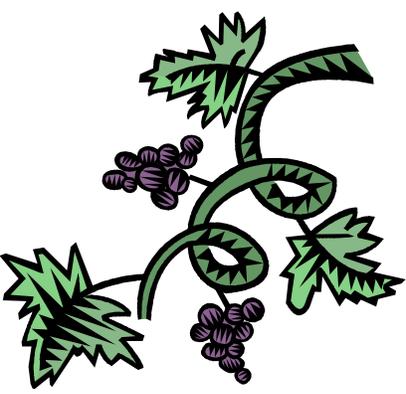
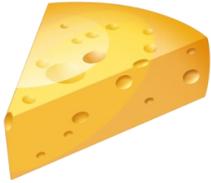


Victoria's Planned Refreshments



By Paul Brunson, Member of
the Denver Chapter of the
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Photos by Judy Fritz



One of the more overlooked parts of a recorder chapter meeting is the refreshment available during the break. Many chapters make do with stale cookies and warm punch - not the Denver Chapter! The Denver Chapter can lay claim to a very unique (and much appreciated!) approach to refreshments. Our Refreshment Coordinator Victoria Taylor, also referred to as the "Cookie Fairy" (a title she is less fond of), takes a very artistic and thoughtful approach to our monthly refreshments.

Victoria became acquainted with the recorder while on a trip many years ago to the Galapagos Islands. It was Christmas and friends had plastic recorders playing carols. She decided to dive in and started playing soprano, alto and tenor recorders shortly thereafter. The tenor pictured in her photo is her first love and she has become quite a proficient player inspiring budding recorder players over the years, including this writer! She has been a member of the Denver Chapter for more than 10 years and after substituting as Refreshment Coordinator, has been on her own for several years, a role that she enjoys. The Chapter gives her a tax deduction for her overall costs.

Victoria takes a planned approach to organizing refreshments. She assembles her treats so they can be carried into the meeting room easily in one trip. She includes a cutting board for cheeses and 6 baskets for the crackers, candy, fruit, nuts, chips and cookies. For each meeting she uses a Holiday color theme when appropriate - green for St Patrick's Day, red for Valentine's, red and green for Christmas, yellow and orange for the fall, cold blue for the winter months etc. One of her unique approaches is to organize the table so that it is not only attractive to the eye but is user friendly. For example, for the March meeting with the St. Patrick's Day theme she included leprechauns, shamrocks, green confetti and a green tablecloth. She identified the cheeses on a 'post it' (green, of course!) and had green cookies and potato chips! For Easter, pictured above, the rabbits, flowers, and Easter grass were featured. It was wondrous to behold, not to mention tasty, to boot. Her exotic cheese selection has become a monthly extravaganza that members look forward to.

Victoria's efforts have really helped to attract new members and provide another satisfying aspect to our meetings. Perhaps some of her ideas and artistic planning can give "food for thought" to refreshment planning for other recorder chapters. Victoria, you are much appreciated!