Have An All Champagne, Economy Wedding

NEW YORK (UPI) — An all-champagne wedding reception hardly sounds like an economy.

But it can save you as much as 30 per cent over the cost of a full bar, says Lore Moser, banquet manager for a restaurant here.

Miss Moser has planned more than 10,000 wedding receptions at the Tavern-on-the-Green in New York's Central Park.

In an interview, she said the 30 per cent figure is based on serving the least expensive domestic champagne instead of champagne punch plus drinks from an open bar of modestly priced liquors.

She said the cost differ- straight from the bottles compensates by providing the effect of an elegant wedding.

Miss Moser suggested that a hostess who will do her own cooking, with or without help from friends and family, plan a cocktail buffet built around two or three main dishes that she does especially well.

Avoid fancy jelled foods. Skip tossed salad, which tends to fall all over the plates, and instead serve string beans vinaigrette or cooked baby carrots garnished with chopped fresh ence would be slightly less if a moderately priced French champagne were chosen.

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Asked for advice on planning an uncatered reception she suggested a guest list of no more than 100, and a menu distinguished for its simplicity.

Champagne poured dill or mushrooms a la grecque, which are raw or canned, drain mushrooms in an oil and vinegar dressing.

Any such salad should be lightly coated with dressing, not soaked, Miss Moser said.

Her suggestions for main courses included veal or beef stroganoff, cold salmon or crabmeat mousse, boned breast of capon, turkey or chicken stuffed with wild and white rice mixed with raisins and pecans.

She recommended brandied peaches or cherries as a garniture for the poultry, and champagne sauce.

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Half a bottle of champagne makes enough sauce for 100 persons when it's blended with pan drippings from the cooked poultry, she said, adding that only one main course should be sauced.

Use a large silver bowl or woven basket to hold hard and soft mini rolls in several varieties — white, whole wheat, rye and pumpernickel.

If it's not a seated buffet, choose fork food only, such as stroganoff, boeuf bourguignon, lasagne or moussaka (eggplant and meat casserole), mousses and poached salmon.

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Dessert could be a cheese board with English biscuits and crackers or a large bowl of fresh cut fruit with kirsch (cherry brandy) and cookies plus, of course, wedding cake.

Miss Moser recommends cold hors d'oeuvre only before a home reception because they're easy to prepare a day ahead and refrigerate, tightly covered, overnight.

She said one can of crabmeat will make enough mousse to stuff tiny cherry tomatoes for a party with 100 guests. Canned artichoke bottoms, halved, go a long way when you pipe salmon or tomato mousse on them for color.

She also suggested deviled eggs with garniture of drained capers or red caviar, cornucopias of salami filled with brandied gorgonzola or brandied cheddar, either homemade or bought at a cheese shop or fancy food store, and hollowed cumcumbers with filling.

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Another hors d'oeuvre, which Miss Moser said is especially popular with dieters, is crudites. That's the French term for a mixture of raw vegetables cut in bite-size pieces and offered with a dipping sauce such as lemon mayonnaise or curry sauce.

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Sink the sauce bowl in crushed ice in a huge bowl or champagne bucket and surround it with bits of cauliflower, broccoli, asparagus tips, radishes, celery, black and green olives, carrots, black radishes and fennel, an anise-flavored vegetable.

Once the menu is chosen, how does one estimate the number of servings needed

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Fashion Tips

David Crystal's new golf dresses are designed for action but also have wear-anywhere smartness. Sample: a striped skirt with a solid top.

For tennis, the Crystal line for spring advances brief skinny tops with comfortable cut and colorful piping. The tops are worn over ruffle-trimmed panties.

Light Housekeeping

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again your best bet: No meat ranks higher in protein and lower in fat content than chicken, according to the National Broiler Council.

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A great example of easy chicken cookery is Onion Chicken. Just enough of the tasty onion comes through the crispy covering to flavor the tender chicken inside.

Dipping the chicken in a peanut butter mixture before coating is the flavor trick for Peanutty Chicken. The smooth, nutty flavor that makes peanuts so popular at the circus goes a long way for this adventurous chicken dish.

Children will be sure to clean their plates when they discover one of their favorite flavors in the main course.

For Onion Chicken use one envelope seasoned coating mix for chicken — original, mild, or Italian flavor; two teaspoons onion powder, two and one-half pounds chicken pieces and one-fourth cup Worcestershire sauce.

Empty seasoned coating mix into the plastic shaker bag; add onion powder. Moisten chicken pieces with Worcestershire sauce. Shake off excess liquid.

Shake 2 or 3 pieces at a time in the bag until evenly coated.

Arrange chicken in single layer in ungreased shallow baking pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 40 to 50 minutes or until tender. Makes about 4 servings.

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For Peanutty Chicken use one envelope seasoned coating mix for chicken — original flavor; three tablespoons creamy peanut butter, one-fourth cup water and two pounds chicken pieces.

Empty seasoned coating mix into plastic shaker bag. Blend peanut butter with water. Moisten chicken pieces with liquid. Shake off excess liquid.

Shake 2 or 3 pieces at a time in the bag until evenly coated.

Arrange chicken in single layer in ungreased shallow baking pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 40 to 50 minutes or until tender. Makes 4 servings.

Economy wedding

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of various foods?

Miss Moser suggested this formula: four or five hors d'oeuvre per person for a full buffet, or eight to ten if the food will consist solely of hors d'oeuvres.

She added that each two pieces of raw vegetables for curdites count as a single serving.

An average of two out of three guests will have a portion of each salad and main course, so you should prepare ½ portion per guest.

For example, 25 servings of each main course and salad for a guest list of 50.

Count on seven glasses of champagne per bottle and estimate four glasses per guest.

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SPEARS Asparagus 15-oz. can 71¢
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ARMOUR Beef Stew 24-oz. can 69¢
KRAFT Mayonnaise 1-qt. jar 69¢
ANN PAGE Mayonnaise 1-qt. jar 55¢

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