



The Bell Tower Bulletin

Federal Student Aid Conference by Sandra Daniels

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend the 2007 Federal Student Aid Conference (FSA) held by the Department of Education during the week of November 26, 2007 and was extremely impressed and surprised with many of the changes that were proposed for the near future. As part of keeping the LCCC community in the loop of the upcoming changes, I would like to share my experience with respect to my participation in the conference.

While attending the FSA Conference, financial aid employees from colleges and universities around the states gathered together to learn of changes in the coming year, along with the rules and regulations that will affect the way financial aid offices remain in compliance. The policies and procedures required to administer Title IV programs can change from year to year based on legislative activity or Executive Branch guidance. The annual conferences are important forums for describing these variations. The annual conferences also cover topics ranging from the technologies associated with the US Department of Education's information systems to improved practices and regulations for dealing with aid applicants and recipients.

Lorain County Community College is a QA (Quality Assurance) institution; therefore, it is imperative that we stay abreast with any new changes in the procedures and regulations for Federal Financial Aid.

During the sessions I attended at the FSA Conference, I, along with others, had the opportunity to gain knowledge, in respect to sharing the information with the LCCC community about the following:

- **Proposed changes from the Department of Education College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA) to increase Pell aid amounts for the 2008-2009, while continuing through 2011-2012 school years**
- **Changes in prior balances accounts for students**
- **The New Teach Grant**
- **Gradual reductions in student loan interest amounts by the year 2012**
- **Dependency Override changes for institutions**

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Bell Tower Bulletin

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- **Changes to the 2008-09 FAFSA and PIN websites along with early awareness for students**

My overall experience while attending the FSA Conference has always been and continues to be a knowledge learned experience as they provide a “bigger picture” while benefiting myself, my co-workers, and LCCC as a whole when servicing our students. Another purpose of the conference is to allow us to provide students with extra knowledge prior to their enrollment in colleges/universities. I truly feel that the FSA Conference has ways of providing opportunities for us to improve on serving our students in a more effective and efficient way. With all the new changes and regulations that the Department of Education provides for financial aid advisors and administrators is just another reason to show how important it is for colleges and universities to attend the Annual FSA Conferences and others.

If you would like to learn of other important issues that were discussed at the Department of Education 2007 Federal Student Aid Conference in a more detailed approach, this information can be found at <http://www.nasfaa.org/publications/2007/eafsa121007.html> in PowerPoint format. I would encourage everyone to take a look at this site, as it may provide information that would be beneficial in your department or even helpful when passing along the information to a fellow student, co-worker, family member, and/or friend. If you have any questions in regards to the new changes that the Department of Education has added in the financial aid policies and regulations, please feel free to contact the Financial Services Center at extension 4034, as more information has been provided since the 2007 November Conference.



Sure Sign of Spring

Submitted by Richard Pasky

Yesterday at 4:30pm, as I drove in through the north entrance, a group of about 15 robins were on the ground next to the LCCC marquee sign. I will take it as a sign of spring to come. They were there five minutes later as my wife can attest to when we drove back out after I picked her up in front of the CC bldg.

LCCC Emergency Action Plan Dial 9-9-1-1 for Police, Fire, or EMS Dial extension 4444 or 4053 for Campus Emergencies

Campus Emergencies

Emergency situations can develop at any time. The first thing to keep in mind is to try to remain calm. Don't panic. Irrational action is a major cause of injury and death in emergency situations. In most instances, a couple seconds of sound thinking will enable you to develop a reasonable course of action. While time may be of the essence, it is just as important to take the proper action as it is to act quickly.

How to Report Emergencies

If an emergency arises on campus, call Campus Security using a regular college telephone by dialing 4444 or 4053. If you have access to a campus telephone and an immediate police, fire or ambulance response is required, dial 9-9-1-1 to make contact with Lorain County's 9-1-1 system. If you do not have access to a regular telephone, activate any emergency phone. Interior emergency phones are activated by pushing the large red button which will put you in touch with 9-1-1. Again, only activate an emergency phone if a police, fire or ambulance response is required. The exterior emergency phones (parking lot tower phones and building wall phones) are activated with a one touch push button operation which places the user of these phones in immediate contact with Campus Security personnel. Once activated, the blue strobe light atop the parking lot tower phones will glow. When reporting an emergency situation, remember to furnish the following:

- The nature of the emergency - a brief description
- Location- Building name, floor, and room number, parking lot, etc.
- Your name
- Any additional information which would aid in handling the situation.

In August of last year, the College's Emergency Action Plan was revised. Over the next few issues, sections of the Action Plan will be reprinted here as a sort of public service announcement.

Next Month: Emergency Notification Methods

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Meet Your Staff Council Representative by Barb Armstrong

Saundra Daniels has been working at Lorain County Community College for almost 15 years now. Currently she is a Financial Aid Accounts Clerk in the Financial Services Department. One of her major responsibilities in that area is to provide opportunities for students and parents to find the maximum financial aid resources for their educational needs. Other job duties that she performs are “processing electronic financial aid corrections, reporting and reconciling Federal Pell payments to the Department of Education, resolving conflicting financial aid information, and providing electronic transfers through various software systems to ensure an effective and efficient upload of Federal Financial aid into LCCC’s CMDS system.” On the Staff Council Executive Committee Saundra is the representative for Group 1 and her term is for 3 years. Other committees she is currently serving on are the Institutional Planning Council, Staff Council Salary and Benefits Committee, OSR Financial Aid Services, and the Communication Committee of the Bell Tower. She feels that the role of SCEC representatives is to be advocates for all LCCC employees, both part time and full time and she would like to see SCEC continue the work that previous members have started while developing new ideas for the staff. Saundra feels that “Staff Council

did a great job when they implemented the Fish Award here on LCCC Campus a few years ago.” She feels it is a great way of showing co-workers that they did a great job. Now with the fish recall in progress, she would really like to see this implemented once again.

On a more personal note, Saundra is a Lorain native, born at what is now the St. Joseph Learning Center. Her family is very important to her and she looks forward to annual family vacations - she is one of four children. “For many years my family and I have made it a tradition to enjoy a few weeks together.” They all enjoy seeing the sites in other states and having a little time to relax together, although she confesses that “relaxation hardly ever happens when you have 7-10 individuals in your group.” Saundra is also looking forward to finishing two master’s degrees - one in Adult Education and another in Business Administration - which she hopes to have finished in October 2008.

Saundra would like her group to feel comfortable in coming to her with any suggestions and concerns that they might have. “My constituents need to know that I will then take these concerns back to Staff Council...” You can reach her at ext. 7662 or via her email address sdaniels@lorainccc.edu.

Did You Know... the Bookstore

Computer Purchase Program

As part of an ongoing technology initiative, the college offers a program whereby full-time faculty and staff who have worked at the college for at least six months can use payroll deduction to purchase computer equipment and software. The program is explained fully at the following web page.

The Bookstore is the starting point in the processing of computer purchases after filling out the online computer request form. Employees bring receipts or quotes to the Bookstore and from there the purchase goes through the Accounts/Payable office to the Payroll Office. At the point, the employee signs a promissory note which allows for payroll deduction of the purchase over a maximum period of three years.

If you are interested in using the program, be sure to read the information on the web page completely as it lists the types of items allowed and other important information and procedures. The webpage is: <http://www.lc3net/LCCC/Departments/HumanResoures/EmployeeComputerPurchasePlan.Normal.1595.lccc>

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Quick Movie Review by Barb Armstrong

Alvin and the Chipmunks: This is a cutesy movie, mostly for the kids. However, parents will remember the enchanting Christmas song that we all heard over and over and over again. The story is a simple one. Dave (Jason Lee) is trying to break into the music field when the chipmunks magically appear in his apartment - and they can sing! Now Dave has a gimmick! After some initial problems, the chipmunks become a hit. But while on their world tour, the trio is separated from Dave, whom they consider “dad.” All ends happily ever after with the Christmas song again! Voices for the chipmunks are Justin Long (Alvin), Jesse McCartney (Theodore), and Matthew Gray Grubler (Simon).

National Treasure: The Book of Secrets: If you take the first National Treasure movie, add a different historic artifact and a different villain, you have the plot for National Treasure II. The Book of Secrets, a book that supposedly only the president of the United States possess and has ever seen, holds the secret to a fabulous treasure that has been hidden in the City of Gold, thought by many to be imaginary. Well the chase ensues and eventually ends upI don't want to ruin the ending because that was the only surprise in the movie. Most of the same actors are in this film. Nicholas Cage (Ben Gates), Jon Voight (Patrick Gates), Diane Kruger (Abigail Chase), and an additional character, Helen Mirren (Emily Appleton - Patrick Gates' estranged wife).

Note: Lots of action and a good family movie (for older children).

The Water Horse: This is a most enjoyable movie. It is essentially the story of the legend of the Loch Ness Monster. Although the movie is filmed in New Zealand, the scenes are very “Scottish” with rolling green hills, lakes, and quaint country cottages. The story is set during World War II. A young Angus MacMorrow (Alex Atel), who is afraid of swimming in the water but loves to beachcomb, finds a large “rock” on the beach and takes it home. He leaves it in his father's shed and it hatches into a small mythical sea creature called a water horse. The creature has a voracious appetite and grows large so fast that young Angus is forced to release it into the loch. Meanwhile the British invade his home, set up camp in his yard, and proceed to build a giant gun to protect the harbor of Loch Ness. They believe that the Germans

are going to infiltrate Scotland through the loch. Things get very scary for Angus, the creature (named Crusoe after the book *Robinson Crusoe*) and Angus's mother Anne (Emily Watson), when the military start shooting into the lake. Don't worry, all ends well.

Recommendation: This is a very good movie for families, although young children might be scared by the loud gunfire near the end of the film.

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street: If you took away the music, the humor, and the fine actors and actresses in this movie, it would be just another slasher film. As it stands, if you can make it through the blood and gore, the music is simply wonderful (Tim Burton of *Nightmare Before Christmas* fame), the scenery is very authentic Dickens-era London, and the actors are top notch. Sweeney Todd (Johnny Depp) is a barber whose life was destroyed when his wife and daughter were lured away by the lustful Judge Turpin (Alan Rickman - Snape in the Harry Potter series) and his clerk Beadle Bamford (Timothy Spall - Wormtail in the Harry Potter series), while Sweeney was sent to a penal colony overseas. He returns 15 years later to seek his wife and daughter. When he learns that his wife is dead and his daughter is adopted by the same evil judge, he seeks revenge. Unfortunately he seeks revenge on everyone! He teams up with Mrs. Lovett (Helena Bonham Carter - Beatrix in the Harry Potter series) who is the town meat pie baker. Well, with a little gruesome imagination, you can figure out the rest of the plot. Amazing scenery and the actors all do their own singing.

Note: Not for children or the faint of heart.



Fish Recall

The fishes have swum their last river.....Could all fish please swim home with the name of the last person who had it attached to it, so that person can get credit? Staff Council will then be permanently awarding the fish to the people who had the fish the most times to recognize their outstanding qualities. Everyone can return the fish to CC010K (the Staff Council Office) after 2:30 p.m. or bring them to UC107 from 9:00 – 2:30 pm to Judy DeMarino. Thank you everyone for your cooperation during Staff Council Executive Committee's Fish Campaign.

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If I Had My Way in 2008 By Richard Pasky

There are a number of annoying things about modern life I would change if I could. Pretend with me that I can.

- I would delete the 9/10 of a penny from gasoline pricing. At \$3+ up per gallon, it is insignificantly trivial. Annual taxpayer savings would surely be \$100 billion, and there would finally be truth in billboard advertizing after all these years.
- I would legislate that TV newscasters may only speak declarative sentences, as if reading the newspaper out loud. It would be illegal for them to ask us stupid questions, like “Is it going to be cold tomorrow? We’ll be right back with the forecast.” They waste more time with nonsense like that and repeating lame slogans, like “your channel 45 - phony filler and unfunny fluff”. Annual savings per viewer would be 400 hours now wasted as we endure inane banter and broken promises from Ken and Barbie.
- TV couch potatoes would receive rebates when TV stations show the same commercial more than once during any half hour of programming. The rebate would be for a free item of what was advertized, up to and including cars. The limit is one car per viewer from each manufacturer per model year. I’d make them pay – just like that nasty lawyer on TV does.
- Professional sports teams would have fans select permanent names of stadiums by voting on a minimum of the 10 coolest names submitted by loyal fans. No more bribes from *Geico*, *SaniFlush*, or *Roach Motel* would be permitted to name the stadiums. Annual savings to US sports fans would be 100 million fewer cases of heartburn from listening to sportscasters repeat those ugly bribed names. FYI, I much prefer Flaming Flats Field over Progressively Higher Premiums Stadium here in Cleveland.
- Celebrity mis-adventures would only be reported in the classified ads in the back pages of print media, or during the 30 second stock market report on TV. I’ve had enough Paris, Bradjolina, and Britney to last a lifetime.

- The only reality TV shows would be live security cameras feeds from party stores in rough neighborhoods.
- There would be a limit of 3 previews at movie theaters, and no previews included on rental DVDs. There would be no commercials included in either media. We already pay to watch these movies, so that should spare us from ads for that brief time.
- Smokers must return all their butts (along with full payment) to retail stores to obtain more smokes. No exceptions.
- We would all gain one point in IQ and lose one pound of flab for every week of 2008.

I hope all this isn’t asking too much for one year. After all, we do have an extra day in 2008 to implement these improvements. Happy Leap Year!

Lorain County Community College Computer Recycling Program/ Bridging the Digital Divide-Phase 12

Professor Hikmat Chedid and the computer recycling team are happy to announce the beginning of the 12th cycle of the Computer Recycling Program.

This program is intended to provide refurbished computer systems to low income current or prospective students. The application is due by February 14, 2008.

To date, 1275 computer systems have been donated to students.

If you want to donate a computer, call Larry Atkinson at ext. 7050. It is tax deductible.

Stocker Center Events Upcoming Films

Sicko, February 1, 2008 - 7:30pm

Once, February 22, 2008 - 7:30pm

In The Valley of Elah, February 29, 2008 - 7:30pm

Outsourced, March 14, 2008 - 7:30pm

The Lives of Others, March 21, 2008 - 7:30pm

Pete Seeger: The Power of Song, April 4, 2008 - 7:30pm

Atonement, April 11, 2008 - 7:30pm

Only Human, April 25, 2008 - 7:30pm

<http://www.lorainccc.edu/stocker>

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How big is your Outlook Mailbox?

Submitted by Larry O'Grady

How much e-mail are you storing?

In most organizations, if you keep your e-mail on a server, such as Microsoft Exchange Server, an upper limit for mailbox size is set by a system administrator.

Even if you don't keep your e-mail on a server, you probably still care about e-mail bloat. It's hard to find that one message if you've got a trillion messages to sort through.

So, how do you know when you're near your limit? How can you tell when you need to take steps to trim your mailbox?

Size up your mailbox

Mailbox size is determined by the size of the folders inside it.

Who sets the limits? If you store your e-mail on a server, your mailbox size limitations are usually set by a system administrator. Size limitations can vary greatly and can be anywhere from 1 megabyte (MB) to 90 MB or more. Not sure where your e-mail is stored? If you get periodic nasty notes from the system administrator, chances are that your e-mail is stored on the server.

What happens when a limit is reached? Once a mailbox reaches its upper limit, an administrator may start limiting functionality: for example, at 450 MB you may get a warning; at 475 MB you may no longer be able to send e-mail; and, at 500 MB you may no longer receive e-mail.

View mailbox and folder sizes

From **Folder List** (which you can get to by clicking **Folder List** on the **Go** menu), click **Folder Sizes** to see the sizes of your e-mail folders.

To see the sizes of your mailbox and the e-mail folders inside it, you would click **Folder Sizes** on the Navigation Pane. The **Folder Size** dialog box appears and mailbox and folder sizes are displayed.

Seeing the mailbox size this way can help you identify areas that you may want to "tone and trim." Clicking **Folder Sizes** is a convenient way to find out how big your mailbox is or how much space a particular folder is taking up.

What makes the mailbox big?

Your mailbox is made up of folders. You can see E-mail folders only by clicking **Mail** on the **Go** menu. You can see all of the folders in your mailbox by clicking **Folder List** on the **Go** menu.

Your main e-mail folder is the **Inbox**. That's where e-mail gets delivered. Your **Inbox** is located *inside* of your

mailbox along with the other folders that are created by Outlook to store information. Some of the other folders that contain e-mail include **Deleted Items**, **Drafts**, **Outbox**, and **Sent Items**. You may not even think of these as folders, but knowing how much space is being taken up by them is your first step towards keeping your mailbox trim.

Did You Know... the Bookstore

Vista/Office Media Kits

The college participates in Microsoft Campus Agreement and has available to full- and part-time faculty and staff media kits for Microsoft Vista and Office 2008 Enterprise at significant savings. (A media kit consists of just the software CD's without the fancy packaging.) Each media kit is sold in the Bookstore for \$16 each. To purchase media kits, an employee must bring some sort of college identification as proof of employment. A college ID is preferable but a pay stub or contract is also acceptable. Students are not eligible to purchase media kits. As with all software, it is important to keep the media CD's and the product key in a safe place as each employee is only allowed to purchase a single copy of each kit. Also, the terms of use for the media requires that employees who leave the college remove the software from their computers.

Comings and Goings

by Linda Bush

Ray Kneisel - retired on 1/4/08

Kathy Hodkey - moved to ESL (English as a Second Language) in PC Campana building

John Miska - was promoted to temporary full-time Computer Resources Technician for IS&S on 12/10/2007.

Karen McLean left on 12/28/07

Michael Pogachar left on 1/18/08

Kelly A. Zelesnik, Full-Time Administrator Dean of Engineering Technologies Division started on January 22, 2008

Michelle McGhee, SMRC Development Specialist starts on February 4, 2008.

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• *Spring Break is a'comin...*
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• *Spring Break is a comin....*
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• *March 24, 26,28, 2008.*
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• *More details next issue.*
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The Bell Tower Bulletin

Dear Reader
By Peggy Nesbit

Citizen Soliders: 107th Cavalry Regiment, Ohio National Guard by George N. Vourlojianis

Yes, it's true. Our very own professor of history has published another book. Dr. V. previously published *The Cleveland Grays: An Urban Military Company, 1837-1919* in 2002 and this past year published this book on the 107th through Jim Toman's Cleveland Landmarks Press.

Though a slim volume, *Citizen Soldiers* is packed with a great deal of general and unit-specific history as well as a wealth of photos from the late 1800's through today. The tradition of volunteer citizen militia goes back to before the American Revolution and militia units were mustered into state regiments wholesale during the Civil War. The 107th was chartered as the First City Troop of Cleveland in 1877 as a result of the waves of labor unrest that has been sweeping the country. Business leaders were naturally concerned about the possibility of strikes and riots in Cleveland and put together a cavalry unit. Like the Grays, the social and economic elite of the city joined including Lincoln's secretary John Hay, industrialist Samuel Mather, future state governor and French ambassador Myron Herrick, and Webb Hayes, son of the president and one of the founders of Union Carbide. Many other first families of Millionaire's Row saw their sons join the regiment.

And the regiment saw service during a series of strikes at various Cleveland industries as well as serving as honor guard for parades, visits, and funeral processions of dignitaries. They also saw service in war time, including becoming part of an artillery battery during WWI.

Over the 20th century Ohio militia units, sometimes as much social clubs as fighting units, were either disbanded or merged into the state's National Guard. The 107th was one such unit and as a National Guard unit served during the Hough and Glenville riots during the 1960's. Part of the troop was also among those guardsmen who opened fire at Kent State in 1970. Since that time, the unit has gone on to serve tours in Iraq. In Appendix III, there are listed 29 different ONG units which are descended from the 107th.

Dr. V. has presented the history of this unit in an easy-to-read and well organized narrative that will be of interest to any Ohio and/or military history buff. The only thing that got a bit confusing for me (which is no reflection on

the author but rather on the US military itself) is the revolving unit designations that the unit went through. Talk about mind-boggling, even with the glossary of organizational components in the back!

Grade: A

Available in the Bookstore for \$16.50.

Leap Year
by Diane Nott

2008 is Leap Year. Yup. We get an extra day this year. All the leap year babies can actually celebrate their birthday.

What is Leap Year? A leap year is a year with one extra day inserted into February; the leap year is 366 days with 29 days in February as opposed to the normal 28 days.

Why do we have leap years? Leap years are needed so that the calendar is in alignment with the earth's motion around the sun.

Leap Year Links and Sources:

<http://www.leapyearday.com/>

<http://www.timeanddate.com/date/leapyear.html>

<http://www.leapyearbaby.com/>

Did You Know... the Bookstore

Book Lover's Club

The Bookstore has a frequent book buyer's program called the Book Lover's Club. Club benefits apply to all general reading books, including special orders. (Sorry, textbooks and nursing/medical reference books are not included!) Once signed up for the program, the Book Lover gets an automatic 10% discount on general books as well as a card to record every \$10 of purchases. Buy \$100 and get a \$10 merchandise certificate for use on anything in the Bookstore. Come to the Bookstore to join the club or email pnesbit@lorainccc.edu.

Also, the Bookstore can special order many books, including general reading, nursing/medical reference books, and textbooks. (NOTE: Textbooks can be a challenge, especially if they are for another college and that school's bookstore does not have them in stock. This usually means there is a problem with the publisher and we may not be able to get it either.) Thanks to the internet, availability and ordering is much quicker than most other stores.

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The Recipe File



RECIPES

by Barb Armstrong

With February just around the corner, my thoughts turn to chocolate-lovers recipes. Maybe it's just because Valentine's Day is in February, or maybe to me ANYTIME is the perfect time for chocolate. Here are three of my favorites.

Brownies

submitted by Barb Armstrong (from my mother-in-law)

- 1 1/2 squares of semisweet baking chocolate
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 eggs, well beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup raisins (optional)
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

Melt chocolate and butter together over hot water. Add the sugar and vanilla extract. Mix well. Add the well beaten eggs. Sift the flour and stir into the mixture. Add the nuts and raisins, if desired. Bake in a well-greased 8 inch square pan at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.

Hershey's Chocolate Frosting

submitted by Barb Armstrong

- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup Hershey's Cocoa
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/3 cup milk

Melt the butter. Stir in the cocoa. Alternately add powdered sugar and milk, beating to spreading consistency. Stir in vanilla extract. Makes approximately 2 cups of frosting. *To generously frost a two-layer cake, I would double the recipe.*

Chocolate Sauce

submitted by Barb Armstrong

- 2 squares of unsweetened baking chocolate
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup milk (or cream)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch

Melt chocolate and butter in a pot over low heat (a double boiler is good for this). Stir the cornstarch into the cold milk or cream until dissolved. Add the sugar and the milk mixture to the chocolate mixture in the pot. Heat until thickened. Cool for 15 minutes and add vanilla extract. Makes approximately 1 cup. Serve over ice cream or pound cake.

Peanut Coconut Shrimp

Submitted by Shelley Prueter

(Shelley reports that she almost never measures and in this recipe it depends on the amount of shrimp you plan to make!)

- Raw shrimp, peeled and deveined
- Asian peanut sauce (preferably Trader Joe's)
- Flaked coconut
- Peanut, coarsely chopped
- Skewers

Pour peanut sauce over raw shrimp and toss to coat. Put on skewers, if desired. Lay on greased sheet pan. Sprinkle with peanuts and coconuts. Sprinkle 1 teaspoon of peanut sauce over shrimp. Bake in 350 degree oven for 7 minutes or until shrimp change from clear to opaque.

Marinated Flank Steak on French Bread

Submitted by Shelley Prueter

Marinate flank steak overnight in:

- 1/4 cup sherry
- 1/4 cup sesame oil
- 2 tablespoon peanut oil
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 2 tablespoon rice wine vinegar
- 2-3 fresh garlic cloves
- 2 tablespoon honey
- Salt & pepper to taste

Broil on grill about 7-10 minutes on each side for rare to medium rare. Serve with Horseradish Sauce.

Horseradish Sauce Spread

- 1 cup sour cream (approximately)
 - 1-8 ounce package cream cheese (approximately)
 - Horseradish to taste
- Slice loaf of French or Italian bread and toast. Spread horseradish sauce on toast, place sliced flank steak on top and sprinkle with chopped scallions.

