



Counting Our Blessings

In the last staff meeting of 2016, after we addressed the mundane things—such as upcoming seminars, getting this newsletter done, etc. — I and my staff did an exercise where we each wrote down a list of what we are thankful for. I believe that so much of the enjoyment or sadness of life

comes from what we focus our attention upon and therefore bringing into our consciousness the things we are thankful for causes us to appreciate our blessings. I sensed that this exercise caused my staff to focus upon their blessings and not to focus on problems -- if only for a few minutes.

If you don't mind me being very personal, I am going to share some of my blessings that I wrote down:

- I am thankful for Gayle (my wife and life-partner) who after 40 years of marriage I believe that I am more in love with today than we have ever been;
- I am thankful for the certainty that there is a Supreme Being and my desire to draw closer every day;
- I am thankful for Gilbert, my Client Relations Specialist, who has successfully battled cancer during the last two years and won;
- I am thankful for my hearing, my vision and my mind;
- I am thankful for Diana for being a very caring and loving daughter;
- I am thankful for my son and, although he is currently suffering some health issues, I know that this will only be temporary and that this will be a gift;
- I am thankful that we live in a free country that provides tremendous opportunities for success;

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Recipe and Instructions

Batter:

1 cup flour

1 cup sugar

1 T. baking powder

1/2 t. cinnamon

1/4 t. cloves

1/8 t. nutmeg

1/4 t. vanilla

1 cup milk

1 (21 ounce) can apple pie filling (I used homemade ap-

ple pie filling here)

1/2 cup (1 stick) butter

Topping:

2 T. sugar

1 t. cinnamon

1 T. flour

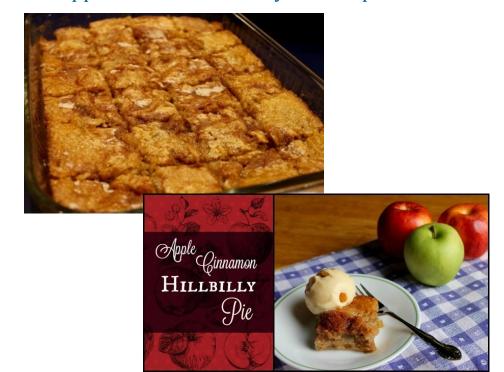
To get started, mix together the flour, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg.

After it's all been mixed together, pour in the milk and then add the vanilla. Stir together and set aside for a minute!

Now it's time to break out the pie filling! We used some homemade pie filling with apples straight from the tree, but you can use store bought too! Just grab a fork and spread it out evenly over the batter.

And sprinkle all over the apples and batter. Bake at 350 for 30 – 40 minutes or until golden brown and cooked through in the center.

Apple Cinnamon Hillbilly Pie Recipe



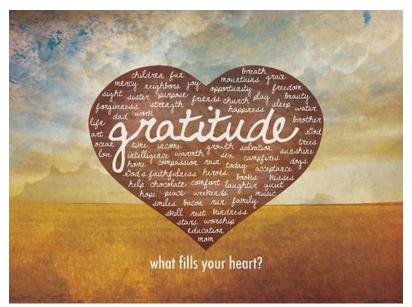
This recipe is from http://www.prairiegalcookin.com/apple-cinnamon-hillbilly-pie/

Upcoming Seminars

Every month, we conduct a free seminar designed to teach about the benefits of creating an estate plan. The seminars are held on-site at our Anaheim office inside of our "classroom". We offer light snacks and refreshments to the attendees and the group is often small and intimate, which allows for questions to be asked comfortably and for a very relaxed environment. Please encourage your loved ones to attend the seminar so that they may learn more about the



estate planning process and benefits. The next seminar will be on the evening of January 19th, 2017. We look forward to seeing your family, friends, colleagues and neighbors!



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- I am thankful for each of my staff members and for their contribution to our team;
- I am thankful that I am an attorney that has found "my" niche in the law that I truly enjoy doing;
- I am thankful that I been given the opportunities to mentor younger staff members about some of the lessons I have learned about life—especially sharing my knowledge with my associate attorneys;
- I am thankful that I have learned to mold my day and my life to create a sense of peace and happiness;
- I am thankful for my dogs—especially a little brown one (It may be more accurate to say that, rather than I have a dog, this dog has a human);
- I am thankful for the success of my business;
- I am thankful that my daughter and I have taken up ballroom dancing this year;
- I am thankful that my wife and I along with our close friends having travelled the world together;
- I am thankful for the many wonderful clients that I have had the privilege of helping with their estate planning;
- I am thankful for the environment that I get to work in;
- I am thankful for my overall happiness.

While many of the above items are very personal, I hope that they may get you to be thinking about your blessings as we start a new year. I suggest that you, right now, get out a sheet of paper and make up a list of what you are thankful for. If any of you would like to share any of your blessings with me, I would love to hear from you.

I truly hope that 2017 brings you and your family health, happiness, love, peace and joy.

How Are We Doing?

At the Law Offices of James F. Roberts & Associates we take pride in providing the best service we possible! We hope that have reached that goal with each and every client that we have the honor of working with to help make sure that your trusts are the best they can be and meet your needs! We invite you to tell us what you think! And if you think we have done a great job, refer a friend! We promise to give them the same wonderful service that we provided to you!





January Craft

January is a time of fresh starts! So why not take this January as an opportunity to teach a new life lesson to the kids in your life? It is never too soon to children about the importance and ability to save money. So here is a fun way to challenge the kids (of all ages) to in your life to save this year! This is a simple way to teach kids about compound interest.

The 365 Day Penny Challenge!



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