Apricot-Lemon Scones

Makes 8 large scones or 12-16 smaller scones

INGREDIENTS:

3 cups all-purpose flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup sugar
3 tablespoons lemon zest
(about 2 large lemons, or 3 small lemons)
1 cup diced dried apricots,
(about (1) 6 oz. package)
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, cold
1 egg
3/4 cup buttermilk

Egg Wash Ingredients

1 egg

1 tablespoon milk (or cream)

Glaze Ingredients

1 cup powdered confectioner's sugar 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract 1/2 teaspoon lemon zest 2-3 tablespoons milk (or cream)

DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 400°F.
- 2. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the dry ingredients: flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar.
- 3. Zest 3 tablespoons of lemon holding the zester over the dry ingredients so that the released oils are captured in the process.
- 4. Using a kitchen scissors, cut the dried apricots into a small pieces. Toss both the lemon zest and dried apricots with the dry ingredients (reserve a 1/2 teaspoon of the zest for use in the glaze). Mix well to distribute the pieces evenly eliminating any clumps that may have formed with the zest or diced apricots.
- 5. Cut the cold butter into a small dice, add to the dry ingredients with a pastry blender, or with your hands using a light touch. *Continued on Page 2*

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- 6. In a separate bowl, or larger, glass measuring cup, whisk the egg and buttermilk together. Add to the flour-butter mixture and mix just until combined.
- 7. Turn the dough onto a lightly floured surface and form into a ball. Flatten the ball to a 5/8-inch thickness. Cut the circle into 8 wedges. Transfer the wedges to a lined baking sheet. Separate the wedges slightly leaving about a 1/2-inch space between each one.
- 8. Prepare and apply an egg wash by beating the second egg with a tablespoon of milk or cream until well mixed. Lightly brush the tops of each dough wedge with the egg wash.
- 9. Bake in a preheated 400°F oven for 15-16 minutes or until the scones have risen and sport a lovely golden brown on top. Transfer the scones to a cooling rack and allow them to cool slightly.
- 10. Meanwhile, whisk together the glaze by combining the reserved lemon zest with the powdered sugar until evenly distributed with no clumps. Add the vanilla extract and 1 tablespoon of the milk and stir. Add additional milk by the teaspoonful until the desired texture is reached, about a 3 second ribbon consistency.
- 11. With a fork dipped in the glaze, drizzled over the scones. Allow the icing to dry for 10-15 minutes or until set. Serve within the hour for maximum enjoyment. Accompany the scones with softened butter, apricot jam, or clotted cream.