

# A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE BIRDS

(contributed by Mary Willms)

In the winter the experts maintain the best way to bird-watch is a comfortable chair by the window. By keeping a feeder stocked with a variety of foods, you can attract many different species of birds that will stay with you until spring. Most people have good luck attracting birds by putting out feeders full of sunflower seeds, cracked corn and millet, or by hanging mesh bags of suet. But if you really want to impress your avian friends, here are a few recipes you can concoct - strictly for the birds!

## JUNCO CORNBREAD

3 cups cornmeal  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 cup fat (meat drippings or lard)  
3 cups water

Mix all the ingredients together and bake in a deep pan at 375 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes. Reduce heat if bread looks as if it is forming a hard crust. May be doubled or halved. Place in mesh bags and hang outdoors.

## JACK DUDLEY'S WOODPECKER PUDDING

8 pounds suet  
2 pounds peanut butter  
1 8-ounce bottle corn syrup  
2 pounds rolled oats

Melt the suet in a kettle, pouring the melted fat into another container as it cooks down. While the fat is still hot, add the peanut butter, corn syrup and oats, stirring constantly until the mixture is well blended. Put the pudding into old soup cans to cool and harden, and store in a cool place. To use, warm the can until the pudding is soft enough to handle. Drill a number of 1 1/2 inch holes in a 4 inch diameter birch log (leave the bark intact to provide good footholds for the birds), spread the pudding into the holes, and hang the log outdoors where it is accessible to the birds.

## FINE FEATHERED ENTREE

3 parts melted fat (suet preferred)  
1 part cornmeal or finely cracked corn  
1 part peanut butter  
1 part sunflower seeds or chopped nuts  
1 part brown sugar  
1 part chopped dried fruit

Combine all of the ingredients with enough water to get the consistency of cooked oatmeal. Cook in double boiler until well blended. Put into small containers like tuna fish cans that can be securely attached to feeders or trees.



## SUET CAKE

2 parts melted fat (bacon fat, suet or lard)  
2 parts yellow cornmeal  
1 part peanut butter

Mix all ingredients together and cook for a few minutes. Pour into small containers (tuna fish cans are good), and refrigerate or freeze until needed.

Mixture can also be stuffed into 1" holes drilled in small logs to hang from trees. The recipe can be made all year long as you accumulate fat. Fasten containers securely to trees or feeders.

## CHICKADEE PUDDING

suet, ground up  
flour, sugar, cornmeal  
old cake, bread and doughnuts  
wild-bird seed, peanut butter  
apples, ground up  
kitchen seeds: apple, squash ect.  
nuts and raisins, bacon fat

Mix all ingredients, except bacon fat. Melt plenty of bacon fat and while hot, pour it over the mixture, stirring well. Pour into disposable aluminum pie plates. Cut as needed.