

Evening with George and Kenita  
by Kenita Gibbins

Entertaining friends comes under things I know how to do. We seldom have more than four guests. We usually serve snacks, wine or a choice of beverages, In the living room in front of the fireplace, which has an electric fire conversations just happen.

Six people fit around our dining room table. As hosts, George and I start with serving individual salads. Then we bring out the raclette. This kind of device I learned about in a friend's home in Switzerland. Swiss people use it for melting cheese and heating pieces of potatoes. My raclette came with recipes. In advance, I filled the cups with chunks of sea bass and cover with grated fontina cheese. The central part of the meal goes under the raclette. On top is a grill. I assign one guest to stir oil-covered vegetables until they are roasted. I turn on the timer for when each chef should check their fish. I'm amazed by how vain our friends are bragging about their cooking. My splurge of buying sea bass was worth it.

We bring out the fondue pots for dessert to continue the theme of cooking for yourself. I like warm chocolate for dipping with pieces of angel food cake, bananas, and strawberries. We get help clearing the table.

I hand out music choices for our entertainment. Each person gets a glass with a certain amount of water in it. Once everyone has the right amount of water for Take Me Out to the Ball Game we can begin. This part of the evening kind of fell apart until our guest caught on you run your wet finger around the top of the glass and sing the song.

I must admit I've only tried this elaborate evening once, but our guests did leave singing.