## **Steve's Beef Stew**

Makes 8-12 servings

Note: Best made a day ahead and reheated over medium-low heat

## Ingredients

- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup all-purpose flour (make roux with another <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup if stew is too soupy)
- 1 tablespoons salt or seasoning salt (preferred)
- 1/2 tablespoon black pepper
- 6 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 pounds beef stew meat (the more marbled the meat the better the stew)
- 1 medium sweet onion finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic pealed & pressed
- 2 stalks celery finely diced
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste

- 5 bay leaves
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup Worcestershire sauce
- 2 cups dry red wine
- 2 cups water
- 1 tablespoon Beef Better than Bouillon
- 1 pound frozen pearl onions defrosted & halved
- 1 pound small red and/or white potatoes – halved
- 4 large carrots, peeled & sliced

## Directions

- 1. Put flour, salt and pepper in a gallon zip bag.
- 2. Heat oil over medium heat in a large Dutch oven.
- 3. Place meat in bag with the flour, salt and pepper and shake until the meat is well coated.
- 4. Shake off meat pieces and add them to the oil
- 5. Stir meat until browned
- 6. Remove meat from pan
- 7. Add finely chopped onion, garlic and celery to Dutch oven and cook, stirring with a wooden spoon to scrape up browned bits until onions are lightly browned
- 8. Add remaining flour from the bag and tomato paste to the pan and cook for 3 minutes
- 9. Add bay leaves, thyme, Worcestershire sauce, wine, water and Beef Better than Bouillon to the Dutch oven.
- 10. Stir until flour dissolves
- 11. Reduce heat to low, cover Dutch oven and cook for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours
- 12. Add pearl onions, potatoes and carrots to the Dutch oven,
- 13. Cover and cook for an additional 45 minutes or until the vegetables are tender
- 14. Allow to cool and then refrigerate

Serve with wide noodles and/or fresh crusty bread