

Farm News from April



"Those chickens are ready for the soup pot, haven't laid an egg in months". That's been a reoccurring winter thought for years. Since we never buy eggs there comes a lot of excitement when the first spring egg appears, then the next, and the next. Pretty soon our few chickens are



giving us more eggs than we can eat. The longer daylength of spring encourages all species of birds to start laying, both domestic and wild. Our turkeys are no exception. One turkey

egg is the equivalent of two chicken eggs so a three-egg omelette becomes quite a meal. Our neighbour also keeps poultry and has the same issues in the spring. "Oh, I dropped off a couple dozen eggs for you." Thanks. Five egg omelets?

With so many forest fires in recent years, winter is safest season to be burning brush piles. This fire didn't take long to go beyond marshmallow roasting size.



A little kitten was quite a surprise for the waking grandson. In a couple of weeks, the new addition will be old enough to join our family.



I remember it well, the phone call from the post office. The moment I picked up the phone I could hear the sounds in the background, "peep, peep, peep!". Hundreds of chicks, all wanting to be heard. That phone call meant an immediate trip to town which followed days of preparation and proceeded weeks of chicken chores.

Sadly, (ha ha) I don't get those calls anymore. I was reminded of that when the phone rang. It was my son, on his way home from the post office. "Peep, peep, peep!" Lots of work has gone into creating a model system for raising chickens. Is it all worth it?

I answer that question every time I sit down to chicken dinner. I can't imagine a better tasting chicken but soon I might be finding out. There's a new breed of chicken on the farm, a French breed, "Mistral Gris". Flavour? "A

simple rub of butter and an open-pan roast brings out the most divine flavour imaginable". Got me hungry. The yellow ones are another gourmet breed, the Western Rustic. I know you're not supposed to shop when hungry but write? "Dinner ready yet?"



Jerry