Italian Wedding Soup w. Meatballs

(about 25 servings)

Meatballs (makes about 50 meatballs)

Ingredients:

2 cups Italian-seasoned Bread Crumbs
½ cup Parmesan, finely grated
1 cup whole Milk
1 cup Beef Broth
½ cup chopped fresh Parsley
3 Eggs, beaten
3 tbsp dried Oregano
2 tbsp Garlic, minced
2 tbsp ground Pepper
4 tsp dried Basil
2 tsp red Pepper Flakes
1 pinch Nutmeg
2.5 lbs ground Chuck (90/10)

Directions:

Stir together all ingredients (sans the ground chuck) in a large mixing bowl. Add the ground chuck and mix together thoroughly. Using 2 spoons, shape the mixture into small (1") balls. Roast them in batches in a skillet until slightly brown all around. Set aside.

Soup (makes about 25 (5 oz)) cups)

Ingredients:

2 cups yellow Onion, diced
2 cups Celery, diced
2 cups Carrots, diced
2 cups cooked Ham (HEB slice #9), diced
2 tbsp Garlic, minced
About 5 quarts Chicken broth
4 tsp dried Oregano
2 tsp red Pepper flakes
2 Bay leaves
4 cups fresh Spinach leaves, stems removed, coarsely chopped
1 cup fresh Parsley
2 (15 oz cans) Cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
Parmesan, grated, for garnish

Directions:

Sweat veggies, ham and garlic in a little olive oil in a stockpot until soft. Add chicken broth, 2 meatballs/person and seasonings, let simmer 15 to 20 minutes Stir in beans, spinach and parsley. Cook about 2 min until spinach wilts. Ladle in soup bowls and sprinkle some Parmesan on top. Serve immediately.