Sorrel soup

Sorrel is one of the first perennial herbs that come up in the spring. **The French** have traditionally eaten it - usually before easter - as a spring tonic and purifier to the body. Used in soup is the most classic method. This is my variation of the traditional recipe.

Prepare your herb.

Harvest sorrel leaves by removing the largest leaves at the ground level leaving the smaller leaves to continue to grow. Rinse then dry in a salad spinner.

Chiffonade or chop 4-6 cups loosely packed leaves removing any stems first.

Prepare the soup.

Melt over medium heat:

4 T. butter

Add to this and cook on low for 10 minutes:

1/2 cup finely chopped onions of any sort

Add:

- sorrel
- 1/4 tsp salt

Turn the heat back up to medium-low, stir then cover and cook for 10 minutes until leaves are wilted and diminished in volume.

Add, stir in then cook for 2-3 minutes:

- 3 T white rice flour
- the leaves off two 2" sprigs of lemon thyme

Add, stirring constantly with a whisk, bringing to a simmer:

- · 2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 2 cups water

Finish the soup.

Whisk together:

- · 2 egg yolks
- 1/2 cup heavy cream

Reduce heat of soup to just below a simmer. to prepare the delicate egg and cream mixture temper it first by add a bit of warm soup then whisking it doing this 3 times until the mixture is warmed. Then while stirring constantly, slowly add the yolks/cream to the stock pot until incorporated and all is warmed. Add salt and pepper to taste. *NOTE: Do not over heat or soup will curdle and separate.*