Mile-High Lemon Meringue Tarts
From Women’s Day, February 1, 2001, page 124

Ingredients:
Lemon filling
- \(\frac{2}{3}\) cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- \(\frac{2}{3}\) cup water
- Yolks from 2 large eggs (reserve whites for meringue)
- \(\frac{1}{3}\) cup fresh lemon juice (from 1 – 2 lemons)
- 1 tbsp. freshly graded lemon peel (from 1 lemon)
- 1 tbsp. stick butter
- 1 package (4 oz) ready-to-fill single-serve graham cracker crusts (6 per package)

Meringue
- Whites from 4 large eggs
- \(\frac{1}{2}\) tsp. Cider vinegar
- \(\frac{1}{2}\) tsp. Vanilla extract
- \(\frac{1}{2}\) cup sugar

Method:
Lemon filling
1. Whisk sugar and cornstarch in the top bowl of a double boiler to mix.
2. Whisk in water, egg yolks and lemon juice until smooth.
3. Place bowl over double boiler, stirring often with the whisk.
4. Boil, stirring constantly, 1 minute or until filling is translucent and thick.
5. Remove from heat. Add lemon peel and butter; stir until butter melts.
6. Pour \(\frac{1}{2}\) cup into each cracker crust and place on a rimmed baking sheet

Meringue:
1. Heat oven to 350 °F.
2. Beat egg whites, vinegar and vanilla in a medium metal or copper bowl with a whisk until soft peaks form when whisk is lifted.
3. Gradually beat in sugar, 1 tbsp. at a time, increasing whisking speed and beating well after each addition until sugar dissolves.
4. Beat 2 minutes longer or until stiff peaks form when beaters are lifted
5. Mound Meringue high on each tart, spread to edge of crust, then swirl with back of a teaspoon
6. Bake 20 minutes or until meringue is browned an instant-read thermometer inserted in center of meringue registers 160 °F.
7. Cool completely on a wire rack, then refrigerate at least 2 hours or up to 8.
8. If you wish to share one, use a small sharp knife dipped in cold water to cut through the meringue smoothly.