

Magic City Egg Fest Cooks Up Success!

More than 700 attendees packed the Village of Colon for the 2nd Annual Magic City Egg Fest.



The sounds of chain saws and generators used to recover from the worst storms in more than fifty years were replaced with the sizzle and smell of smoked meats and wood fired pizzas at the 2nd Annual Magic City Egg Fest, a culinary competition and festival for enthusiasts of the Big Green Egg, the worlds best selling kamado style grill, oven, and outdoor smoker. More than 700 attendees feasted on ribs, chicken, and wood fired pizzas from 25 culinary teams who competed in three rounds of cooking held in the Village of Colon, Michigan. The competition was judged by a panel of judges in each of three rounds. "I really enjoyed the festival." said judge Dave Lorenz, Vice President of Travel Michigan. "Festivals should be a reflection of the community, and this certainly is. Colon is known as the Magic City USA and a different kind of magic happened here at a time when we all need it. People came together in support of a worthy cause, enjoyed good food, fun and each other's company. This is what a festival should be."

“This year’s fest was a tremendous success”, said Tim Taylor, Festival organizer and EGG-secutive Director of the Magic City Egg Fest. “Just over a week ago this town was ravaged by some of the worst storms in more than 50 years causing widespread power outages and severe property damage, but the resiliency of the community shined brightly as we came together as a community for the first time in a long time.”

Attendees traveled from as far as Kenosha, Fort Wayne, Chicago, and Detroit for Michigan’s one and only Egg Fest. “This was our first time at the Egg Fest.” said Gerri Frodin of Crestwood, Illinois. “We were amazed at the culinary talent of the teams and the amazing food they prepared. We will definitely be back.”

This year’s festival featured a corn hole tournament sponsored by Pioneer Seed where 29 teams competed in a single elimination tournament. Father-son duo Jason and Dustin Schwenk of Centerville took home first prize edging out Joe Kosman and Ryan Severance of Chicago. “The cornhole tournament was a great addition to this year’s festival and we were absolutely delighted to sponsor the event.” said event sponsor, Jeff Whiting.

Teams started setting up at 5:30am and began roasting and smoking ribs at 7:00am after opening ceremonies and the official lighting of the grills. Each team was provided with a brand new Large Big Green Egg with all of the accessories provide by event sponsor Hastings Ace Hardware. Doors opened at 11:00am to a long line of “Egg Heads”, who anxiously awaited the first round of barbecued ribs. “This fest is an outstanding community event and so well run. We will always be a part of it.”, said Pork-A-Holic’s team captain, Bob Lewandowski. “Our team had a blast and we’re so grateful to be a part of this event while supporting our veterans.”

Trophies, prizes and bragging rights were awarded to the best teams in each of the three categories plus taster’s choice awards

for the best all-around teams chosen by the attendees of the festival.



First place winners in the Ribs Round went to Sherwood natives, Ramsey's Misfits featuring chefs Julie Stoll, Becky Stoll, Vicky Paliga, and Steve Landess



Second place winners in the Ribs Round went to the Sand Lake Party Store featuring chefs Shawn Fabian, Bryant Fabian, Reggie Huff, and Eric Anderson



Third place in the ribs round went to The Lesterites featuring chefs Greg Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Marty Beck and Mark Beck.



Honorable Mention in the Ribs Category went to the returning entrants, Stone Cold Grillers, featuring chefs Arden Davidson, Arden Davidson Sr., Tony Hemker, Mark Losinski



Honorable Mention in the Ribs Category went to first time entrants, The Pork-O-Holics featuring chefs Bob Lewandowski, Jeff Hart, Tony Balsanto and Joe Kozman.



First place winners in the Chicken Round went to Prairie Lake BBQ featuring winning chefs Dave Persons, Alan Heap, Betty Persons and Ricky Hart from Colon, Michigan.



Second place winner in the Chicken Round was one man show, Keith Hall, of the Grilling Company out of Grand Rapids, Michigan.



Third place winners of the Chicken Round were returning chefs, SHell of a Team featuring chefs Pam Gilbert, Carol Ritchie and Annette Thornton.



Honorable Mention in the Chicken Round went to returning team Get the Pork Outta Here featuring chefs Dave Carpenter, Julie Carpenter, Bill Schultz and Vicki Schultz.



Honorable Mention in the Chicken Round went 2 Men and an Egg featuring chefs Tom Cannon and Joe Latchaw.



First place winners in the Pizza Round went to Prairie Lake BBQ featuring chefs Dave Persons, Alan Heap, Betty Persons and Ricky Hart.



2nd Place in the Pizza Round went to Broadway Grillers featuring Nate Clifell, Nick Blanton, Erik Degroot, and Damian Feldblauer.



Third place in the Pizza Round went to returning team, Forge BBQ, featuring chefs Travis Ferry, Keith Nearpass, and Ryan Charles



Honorable Mention in the Pizza Round went to Michigan Made featuring Robert Van Dyke and Craig Brown.



Honorable Mention in the Pizza Round went to Ramsey's Misfits featuring chefs Julie Stoll, Becky Stoll, Vicky Paliga, and Steve Landess.



First place Taster's Choice Award went to Double D Grillers featuring chefs Dave and Deanna Mumby and Dave and Erika Kruszka.



Second place Taster's Choice Award went to Pigheaded BBQ featuring chefs Tim Noga, Scott Paliga, Dave Hostetler, and George Collins.



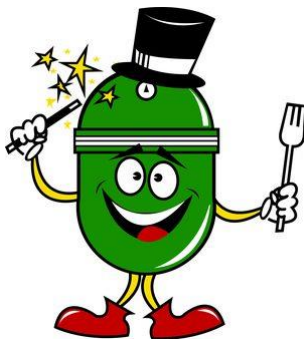
Third place Taster's Choice Award went to Pork-O-Holics featuring chefs Bob Lewandowski, Jeff Hart, Tony Balsanto and Joe Kozman.

First place in the Magic City Egg Fest Corn Hole Tournament sponsored by Pioneer Seed went to father son duo, Jason and Dustin Shwenk.

Second Place in the Magic City Egg Fest Corn Hole Tournament sponsored by Pioneer Seed went to Joe Kozman and Ryan Severance.

All of the proceeds for the event are donated to the Colon American Legion Post 454 who support veterans, their families and the local community. For more information, you can go to their website at www.magiccityeggfest.com or contact Tim Taylor at 773-383-

7892. Plans for next year's festival and the date for that event will be announced soon.



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