

Under the Toque

FALL EDITION

OCTOBER 2008

Geneva Lakes Chapter of The American Culinary Federation

Important Message From Chapter President



Chef Joe Rodriguez

Chapter Officers

Joe Rodriguez

President

Kerry Doll

Vice President

Russ Tronsen

Secretary

Linda Trakselis

Treasurer

David Ross

Certification Chair

Greetings Members. First and Foremost I want to dispel any rumors out there that we are considering closing the club. It has been very apparent over the last couple of years a need to re-vamp our club to meet the needs of our current and future members.

Our membership declined significantly due to the formation of the Blackhawk Chapter of The ACF. This pulled a large contingency of both Professional and Student Members. Since then we have maintained a roster of Professional members at 12. Also we have some H.S. student members as well.

We see the need to

recruit new members to help our club get back off the ground. This summer the executive team of Kerry Doll, Linda Trakselis, Russ Tronsen and David Ross met to discuss a strategic plan for the upcoming 08-09 year. They also set some new membership benefits and defined the Culinary Enthusiast membership option. All of this is outlined in this issue of Under The Toque.

We unfortunately needed to cancel the Golf Outing this year due to a lack of participation and sponsorship. We felt that the current economic situation may have impacted the outing. We tried moving the date to see if that would work but it unfortu-

nately didn't.

Our first meeting was held at the Lake Geneva Country Club and was attended by one member, 2 guests, and the host; me. This has been a trend over the past year that attendance at meetings has been poor. That influenced us to have our strategic plan meeting.

No one including myself wants to see our club go down. In order for our club to be strong again all members and the board need to work together to make events and meetings run well. In addition to recruitment efforts. This is not a process the board can accomplish on it's own. *Cont. pg.3*

Meet The 2008-2010 Board Members

President:

Chef Joe Rodriguez of the Lake Geneva Country Club

Email:
j3371r@hotmail.com

Vice President

Chef Kerry Doll of Chartwells at the University of Wisconsin Whitewater

Email:

dollk@uww.edu

Treasurer

Chef Linda Trakselis instructor at the Art Institutes-Chicago

Email:

ltraks@yahoo.com

Secretary

Chef Russ Tronsen instructor at Badger High School

Email:

tronsen@genevaonline.com

Certification Chair

Chef David Ross of Lake Lawn Resort

Email:

dross@lakelawnresort.com

Chapter Chef of The Year, Mentor of The Year, H.S. Educator of The Year

Recently chapter and board members David Ross and Russ Tronsen earned local and state recognition for their efforts as chapter members and their involvement in education.

David Ross was awarded last June the Chapter Chef of the Year Recognition by our chapter. He also was just awarded the 2008 Mentor of the Year recognition by the Wisconsin Restaurant Association Education Foundation (WRA-EF). He has been a mentor and employer of Badger High School Culinary Students for the past 4 years. He recently mentored the

2008 National ProStart Student Invitational Culinary Champion Badger High School Team. He has also been there for the 3 Year reigning State Champions. Kudos to Chef David for his well deserved recognition.

Russ Tronsen was recently awarded the 2008 High School Educator of the Year from the Wisconsin Restaurant Association Education Foundation (WRA-EF). He was honored for his continued commitment to ProStart as the Badger High School instructor.

Tronsen is also a board member on the WRA-RF Board of Directors.

Ross and Tronsen were honored at the Celebration of Excellence banquet held at the Nakoma Golf Club in Madison back on Sunday October 5th. Also honored was the Chef of the year Paul Smitala of Black Wolf Run, Restaurateur of the year Joe Bartolotta of the Bartolotta Restaurant Group, Chef Educator of the year Chef Jen Sollo-way-Malvitz instructor at Fox Valley Technical College, and Supplier of the year Reinhart FoodService.

Congratulations to Chef David and Chef Russ for their efforts and positive representation of our Chapter!

New Membership Benefits

The executive board determined it was time to take a look at the benefits of belonging to the ACF-GLC chapter are. In doing so they designed some new benefits for members. Following are a list of the potential benefits and how members can access them.

- 1) No Local Chapter Dues
- 2) Free ServSafe for *Active Members
- 3) ACF Competition Stipends up to \$150.00

- 4) Course Reimbursement towards certifications up to \$100.00
- 5) Free Educational Seminars and Excursions with potential CEU's

How does one qualify for these benefits?

- 1) Paid Current Membership and Affiliation with ACF-GLC Chapter
- 2) Must attend 3 regular meetings within a 12 month period

- 3) Must attend one educational seminar or excursion within a 12 month period.
- 4) Must Participate in either Blues Cruise, Night of Love or Golf Outing within a 12 month period.

If you meet the fore-mentioned criteria you will become eligible to take advantage of these benefits.

ServSafe to be taught one time per year; tentatively in September during National Food Safety Month, sponsored by ACF-GLC.

Culinary Enthusiast Information

The culinary enthusiast is one of the newest membership options that the ACF and Geneva Lakes Chapter support. It is a membership for those who are not involved with the industry but have a passion and appreciation for the culinary arts.

The cost of being an ACF-GLC enthusiast member is \$150.00 per year. The benefits one gets as a member

Include:

- 1) Participation in all ACF-GLC educational seminars and excursions. (Some fees may apply at the discretion of the Board)
- 2) 10% exclusive discount from the Lake Geneva School of Cooking for classes.
- 3) Opportunity to pair with a Chef

for the Night of Love as an assistant.

- 4) Help fundraise for our chapter.
- 5) Serve on ACF-GLC committees
- 6) Host own meetings with fellow enthusiasts

Enthusiasts have non-voting powers with the exception of committee work.

Presidents Message Continued from Page 1

I encourage all of you to log onto our newly renovated web page www.acfwisconsin.org to download our new membership brochure, culinary enthusiast member and share these with potential members. Together we all can recruit new members to the organization.

I encourage all of you to bring a new potential member to our next meeting on Monday November 10th and Nicoise at The Golden Oaks Mansion. This meeting is being hosted by Chef David Bell a new member of our chapter.

At this meeting we will overview the upcoming

Year! We also have some great educational options and excursion's to plan. We have received some great support from Plitt Seafood, Dierks Waukesha, and WI Pork Marketing Board to provide educational seminars for our club.

In order to make all of this a success we need your attendance at these functions. Once again please look for more details about these events in this newsletter. In this time of economic perils we need to rely on each other for moral support to get through this.

We as a Board have tried to remove some of the economic issues by reducing

membership fees and providing excellent professional development opportunities like FREE ServSafe Training, competition stipends and educational stipends.

We do plan to carry on all of our other activities like the Night of Love, Blues Cruise, and Culinary Field Trips. But again we need your support to make them successful.

In closing I hope you all have a great rest of Fall and I look forward to seeing everyone at the November meeting. In the mean time, if you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact any of the board members for assistance.

Respectfully Yours,

Joe Rodriguez

Next Meeting

Monday

November

10th, 2008

6:00 p.m.

Nicoise At The

Golden Oaks Mansion

Please RSVP!

tronsen@genevaonline.com

Upcoming Chapter Events and Meetings

Chapter Meetings

Monday December 8th, 2007

6:00 p.m.

Badger High School

220 E. South Street

Lake Geneva, WI 53147

More Info:

tronsen@genevaonline.com

Chapter Field Trip

January TBD, 2009

Monroe Cheese Factory Tours

Late Winter or Early Spring

Meeting

Monday March 2nd, 2009

Janesville Grays Brewery

Meeting

April 20th, 2009

Lake Geneva School of Cooking

Pork Marketing Board

5:00-6:30

Dinner 6:30

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

See Web For More Info at:

www.acfwisconsin.org

Meeting

Monday May 11th, 2009

Lake Lawn Resort

Plitt Seafood Hot Topics &
Sustainability

5:00-6:30

Dinner 6:30

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Milwaukee Public Market

May 18th or 19th, 2009

Market Tour and Seafood

Demonstrations

Sponsored By Dierks Waukesha

Next Meeting

Monday

November

10th, 2008

6:00 p.m.

Nicoise At The
Golden Oaks Mansion

Please RSVP!

tronsen@genevaonline.com

This will be your only minder!



F.Y.I

*Past Meeting Minutes available online for review and printing.

**Don't let your membership lapse renew now online at www.acfchefs.org*

Chapter Number: WI052