

# CONTEST RECAP

## 2007 SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS MASTERS BBQ CHAMPIONSHIP IN WICHITA KANSAS

Sunny days and starry nights were enjoyed by the 25 teams participating in the 2007 South Central KS Masters BBQ Championship in Wichita, KS--no rain this year to challenge the cooks and their smokers. The new venue this year was the historic Old Cow Town Museum grounds where security dressed in the Old West Sheriff's attire-- long black coats, black cowboy hats and complete with boots and spurs—cowboys dressed to look the part, ladies in vintage dress strolled through the area with small parasols held high to ward off the sun-- added to the charm of this year's BBQ competition. The paved parking lot, where the cooks set up their tents/ flags/banners, gave a festive air to the contest and was surrounded by wooden fences that contained long horn cattle and sleek riding horses grazing in the pasture-- providing a homey farm atmosphere of the Old West. It's a true adage that "barbecue and cowboys go hand in hand". On stage were 4 award-winning jazz/blues bands, compliments of The Blues Society of Wichita, entertaining the public with zesty music and songs as they strolled around talking with the cooks about their favorite recipes, rubs and sauces, and tasting those delicious samples of chicken, pork ribs, pork and brisket.

The KCBS contest in 2007, a benefit for the Center for Health and Wellness healthcare facility serving the uninsured and underinsured in Wichita, brought teams from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas as participants. Top winner, Grand Champion (Paul Schatte from Ponca City, OK) received a cash prize and a CHW monogrammed red apron/chef's hat (a tradition for the top BBQ winners) to enjoy while he cooks his very tasty barbecue meats during the coming year. Reserve Grand Champion was won by Pig In! Pig Out! (Derek Cochran and team from Wichita, KS) who also received a cash prize and apron/chef's hat. Other teams in the contest and their overall ranking included: JP Custom Smoke( John Patty) 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Pok N' Da Ribs(Gary Thompson), 4<sup>th</sup> place, Smokin' Leprechauns(Mike and Susie Cody) 5<sup>th</sup> place, Smokin' & Chokin (Carl Brewer) 6<sup>th</sup> place, Firebreathers Barbecue(Mike Simpson) 7<sup>th</sup> place, D,J BBQ(James Brooks )8<sup>th</sup> place, Smokin & n Jokin (Scott Webb) 9<sup>th</sup> place, Hog Tide Bar-b-que (Drew McNatt) 10<sup>th</sup> place, The Real Pit BBQ(Kent Campbell) 11<sup>th</sup> place, Blue Collar BBQ(Tom Rodgers) 12<sup>th</sup> place, Connoisseurs of Fine Swine(Danny Arterberry)13<sup>th</sup> place, Hedge Hogs(Terry Phillips)14<sup>th</sup> place, Smoke Meisters (Mike Ayers)15<sup>th</sup> place, Pork Craft(Mike Hill) 16<sup>th</sup> place, No Clue BBQ(Richard Dobbeleare) 17<sup>th</sup> place, Uncle Bud's Smokehouse (Buddy Harrison) 18<sup>th</sup> place, Twiztid BBQ( Taylor Johnson) 19<sup>th</sup> place, Road House( James Stowe) 20<sup>th</sup> place, Capital Punishment(Ken Huelsman) 21<sup>st</sup> place, Lazy D Bar B Q(Randy Duft) 22<sup>nd</sup> place, Road Kill BBQ 23<sup>rd</sup> place, Bad Boys BBQ(Judd Patty) 24<sup>th</sup> place, and Smoke on Wheels(Andy Groneman--CHW KCBS Banquet Award Certificate winner).

**The contest in addition to the KCBS competition also included a People's Choice and Amateur contest. Donated pork butts were distributed to the cooks who smoked them for the sample tasting by the public and voted for the tastiest pulled pork. Winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> People's Choice was Pig In! Pig Out! BBQ (Derek Cochran) who was presented with a large plaque award. The winner of the Amateur contest was Three Girls BBQ(Mike Meyer and daughters) who won a cash prize.**

**The Silent Auction, Health Fair and Food vendor completed the activities enjoyed by the public as they strolled through Old Cow Town historical buildings and enjoyed the BBQ contest. The KCBS representatives for this contest were John and Harriet Fontana and Bill and Darlene Norman. Judging of meat entries took place in the old Café.**

**Planning is already underway for the 2008 5<sup>th</sup> Annual KS Masters BBQ Championship. We'll keep the traditional bbq contest rollin' along!**