

HAIL, CAESAR!

WINNERS NAMED IN 22ND ANNUAL CAESAR SALAD COMPETITION

HOUSTON – October 16, 2006... Houston's best culinary talents competed for the title of Best Caesar Salad at the 22nd Annual Caesar Salad Competition, held last Friday night at the Doubletree Hotel Allen Center in downtown Houston. The event was sponsored by the Houston Food & Beverage Managers Association and *My Table* magazine, and event proceeds benefit the Food & Beverage Managers' Educational Endowment.

Twenty-one Houston-area chefs chopped, cooked, tossed and served-up their best caesar creations, which ran the gamut from the traditional classic caesar to Caesar paninis, Caesar panna cotta and beyond. The 350 attendees strolled and sampled salads, enjoyed fine wines from Banfi Vintners and voted for their favorite salad, which received the coveted People's Choice Award. A panel of celebrity judges voted for winners in three categories – Best Classic Caesar Salad, Best Creative Caesar Salad, and Best Presentation.

Winners were presented awards by event co-chairs Guy Stout (event founder) and Randy Fournier, president of the Food & Beverage Managers' Association:

Best Creative Caesar Salad – The Remington at the St. Regis Hotel.

Moroccan Caesar Salad ~ Slow-roasted lamb on housemade flatbread with Moroccan Caesar dressing (Caesar dressing with touch of yogurt, tumeric, coriander, cumin, etc), shredded romaine and mint.
Chef Garret Fujieda

Best Classic Caesar Salad – Mockingbird Bistro Wine Bar

Chef/owner John Sheely

Best Presentation – Marriott Westchase

Caesar Salad Spring Roll with jumbo lump crab and chilled lobster served in a glass with a fresh orchid bloom and accompanied by a pisco sour shooter. Chef Miguel Rodriguez

Consumer's Choice – Park Café at Holiday Inn Select

Paradise Caesar Salad, with dried tropical fruits. Chef Frederic Brown

The Houston Food & Beverage Managers Association sponsors activities that enhance the professional skills of its members; facilitates the sharing of information and ideas among members; promotes the common interest of the members; works to improve business conditions; and gives back to the community.

Launched in 1994, *My Table* is a critical guide to dining out and dining well in greater Houston. Though it began as a modest 12-page newsletter, the award-winning *My Table* has grown to 64-plus pages. In addition to the Caesar Salad Competition, *My Table* also sponsors the Top 10 Wine List Awards in May each year and the annual Houston Culinary Awards in October.

For information, contact Randy Fournier at 713/609-5510.