



Trinity Lake Fest

Awesome Appetizer Cookoff

Information Sheet

Registration Deadline: July 1, 2016

This fun and friendly cookoff competition gives North Trinity Lake supporters a chance to showcase their talents and win a prize and/or cash, while helping to raise needed money for North Trinity Lake Community projects and charitable donations.

Important!

- In order to control the public tasting of appetizers and to have enough tastings for all guests arriving before 5:30pm, we request that you limit the tasting of your appetizer to one per person. To track tastings, please check off your appetizer on the back of the guest's ticket/tasting badge.
- Please remember... this is a fundraiser and all Fest attendees should all have the opportunity to taste appetizers.

General Information

- There are two contest categories: professional and amateur. Professional is for businesses or organizations who want to advertise their products and services, and for people in the restaurant business.
- Fest ticket holders receive ticket/tasting badge allowing them to taste eight cookoff appetizers. A sample is typically just 1-2 "bites" (similar to Costco food samples and typically fit in a 2oz cup). You can check the Fest website www.TrinityLakeFest.com for sample size examples.
- The Lake Fest cookoff committee can supply the 2oz cups and spoons for sampling. Small paper trays are available on request at the time of entry.
- Each contestant must provide 3 full servings of their dish for judging and at least 150 Crowd samples.

Registration

- The cookoff is limited to 20 contestants
- Each contestant will receive wine tasting tickets for two individuals (adults only), a Fest commemorative wine glass, and appetizer tasting tickets.
- Contestants must be at least 12 of age. Contestants under 18 must have written parent/guardian consent and be accompanied by an adult.

Awards Categories

- **Judges' Choice (Amateurs Only):** 3 appetizer plates are judged by a judging panel. Judging plates are collected at designated times. Cash award and certificate to 1st to 3rd place; 4th and 5th place receive a Fest gift and certificate.
 - 1st place - \$150
 - 2nd place - \$100
 - 3rd place - \$75
- **People's Choice:** This is a fun, fundraising part of the cookoff. The People's Choice winner is the contestant receiving the most votes from the event attendees. First through fifth place winners in both Professional and Amateur categories receive a Lake Fest gift and certificate.

- **Showmanship/Best Display (Amateurs Only):** One award per category. Award: Lake Fest gift and bragging rights. The three (3) judges for this category are selected randomly from the public. Booths will be judged by the following criteria. Total possible points are sixty.
 - **Dress:** Creativity, depicts Fest theme (20 pts)
 - **Workspace/table decorations:** Creativity, use of color, depicts Fest theme (20 pts)
 - **Friendliness/Spirit** (20 pts)

Cookoff Schedule

- Please see the Program page on the Fest website: TrinityLakeFest.com for the current event schedule

Judging / Criteria

- The decision of the judges is final.
- The Trinity Lake Fest committee reserves the right to change or modify these rules at any time. Any changes will be communicated to all entrants.

Judges' Choice Award:

- One team of three (3) judges will be used to judge Amateur entries.
- To ensure confidentiality and impartiality during the judging process, each contestant will be randomly assigned an entry number. The Cookoff Committee will control numbering and sample collection to ensure anonymity.
- The judging team selects the Judges' Choice winners based on criteria score. If there is a tie, the Taste score is used to break the tie. If there is still a tie, the Overall Appeal score will be used next as the tie breaker. The Texture score will be used as the last tie breaker.

Total possible points are **forty**.

1. **Overall Appeal:** The overall impression—creativity and effort put forth for the complete entry (10 pts)
2. **Taste:** Overall palate appeal. Good flavor combination: seasoning, spices and herbs balanced. (10 pts)
3. **Texture:** Cooked just right (not overcooked/ undercooked), volume; tender, moist, or crunchy as appropriate (10 pts)
4. **Originality:** Originality in the name and choice of appetizer. (10 pts)

Officials Rules

General

- Cooks may use propane or butane burners or barbecues (limited). Your cooking area must be managed in a fire-safe manner since you will be cooking around trees and grass. Please bring a fire extinguisher if you will have an open flame.
- Contestants are responsible for supplying all ingredients, heating and cooling devices, serving utensils, etc. All vendors must be self-supporting. **No electric hookup is available.**
- By law: Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold. Cold holding temperature must be 40 deg. F or less. Hot food must maintain a minimum temperature of 140 deg. F
- All appetizer dishes must be prepared in a sanitary manner. Please bring a means to clean your hands. You must wear gloves when preparing and serving your dish. The Lake Fest committee will supply you with plenty of gloves.
- Each appetizer/contestant will share an 8-foot table and a 10' x 10' booth with another cookoff contestant. (If a contestant enters two appetizers they will have an entire table and booth.)

