



Epicureans

November 2015

Upcoming Meetings & Events:



5 EAST HURON STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14203
716.848.4500

MONDAY, NOV 9TH • 6:00PM

\$15 CHARGE FOR FOOD
CASH BAR AVAILABLE

RSVP by Friday, November 6th

For reservations contact:
nplazio@verizon.net

Reservations are needed to assist
our meeting facilities to better serve the amount
of people attending— please be professional
and make reservations in advance!

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Letters from the Trenches!

We are suspending our regular broadcast of “Letters from the Trenches!” for this Holiday edition of our membership drive. This concerns me. How do you balance content with need to support? I’m sure NPR and Public Television ask this question every day. Why do we need to consider this? As a professional association, we operate on several different levels. If we are going to be true to our membership, then we need to realize the involvement on each of these different levels, as it pertains to the membership. Not everyone can support local events, or be involved with regional competitions and conferences, or even participate on the national stage of this great organization. How can this chapter be all things to all people?

As I have mentioned before, I am totally committed to the membership of the ACF of Greater Buffalo. I have pondered long and hard about what it is that makes this chapter great and what will make it greater to more chefs in the future.

Clearly, our past success has been built on hard work and involvement of many chefs. The events that the ACF of Greater Buffalo have organized even recently like the Festival of Trees, Chef & Child at Becker Farms, the summer Golf Outing and The Taste of Culinary, just to name a few, reap many benefits for the chapter. Though many chefs are involved with the execution of these events, how can we involve more members of the chapter, maybe with different projects? Are there events or features you would like to see happen within the parameters of our chapter?

This is where I reach out to you, the members. This is your chapter. With the current election, we are at a real crossroad. We have nominated some young, up and coming chefs that have an opportunity to work with some well “seasoned” chefs to begin to shape our chapter for the future. As we gain input from every one of you, we can do the things that matter to each of you. It feels like this is a great time to reach out to new chefs in the community. This chapter needs to fill the needs of at least 80% of the membership, and this will only happen if we hear from you.

So, it does end up sounding like a pledge drive, only you have already “donated”. You only now have to decide how the “show“will go.

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 E: ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu

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 C: 716-417-9663
 E: chefmike957@verizon.net

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 E: kdolce@mac.com

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 H: 716-542-4340 E:chefburden@yahoo.com
 John Davidson, CEC
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 E: Sabres7499@verizon.net

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 E: monica.phillips@gmail.com

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 E: barronkevin@syr.sysco.com
 Charles Martin
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 W: 800-632-6328 vm: 227
 C: 716-359-5950
 E: cmartin@maplevalefarms.com

Appointed Positions

Certification.....Mark Wright, CEC, AAC
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 E: Cheftvcc@aol.com
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 C: 574-0209 F: 614-6833
 E: Tweeko34@aol.com
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 C: 716-604-8881
 Social Chairperson.....Phyllis Venezia
 H: 716-699-2223
 E: louv1923@hughes.net

Articles and information for the newsletter are subject to editing and condensation. Because of the limited space in the newsletter, we are not always able to publish all articles and information. In addition, use of articles and information without express permission of the ACF of Greater Buffalo is strictly prohibited.



Save the Date

Upcoming Events

SOCIAL MEETING

NOV 9TH 2015 ▪ 6:00PM
OSHUN

5 East Huron St. ▪ Buffalo, NY 14203

FESTIVAL OF TREES

NOV 21TH 2015

HYATT REGENCY BUFFALO

Two Fountain Plaza ▪ Buffalo, NY 14202

BOARD MEETING

NOV 30TH 2015 ▪ 5:00PM

UB CENTER FOR TOMORROW

Board Room

Flint Road Entrance

SOCIAL MEETING

DEC 7TH 2015 ▪ 6:00PM

NIAGARA FALLS CULINARY INSTITUTE

8 Old Falls Street ▪ Niagara Falls, NY 14303

BOARD MEETING

JAN 3RD 2016 ▪ 5:00PM

UB CENTER FOR TOMORROW

Board Room

Flint Road Entrance

HOLIDAY PARTY

JAN 10TH 2016

SATURN CLUB

977 Delaware Avenue ▪ Buffalo, NY 14209

GINGERBREAD COMPETITION

DEC 4TH-7TH 2015

NIAGARA FALLS CULINARY INSTITUTE

8 Old Falls Street ▪ Niagara Falls, NY 14303

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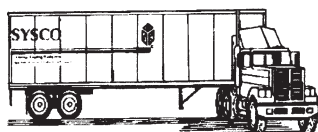
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ACF of Greater Buffalo Membership at a Glance – November 2015

Membership Type	Count	Percentage
Allied	1	0.60%
Student Culinarian:	39	24.20 %
Culinarian:	8	5.00 %
Junior Culinarian:	1	0.60 %
Associate:	7	4.30 %
Professional Culinarian:	87	54.00 %
Senior Professional Culinarian:	16	9.90 %
Culinary Enthusiast:	2	1.20 %
Total Membership Count:	161	



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people in the news

Sympathy and Prayers go out to Jackie Bamrick and her family with the passing of her brother, Michael S. "Mickey" Bamrick. He was Jackie's best friend. Mickey worked at the Buffalo News and I heard that everyone there was very sad with the passing of such a great gentleman and co-worker... Please keep the Bamrick family in your hearts and prayers during this tough time. Thank you- John Matwijkow

Thanks! To the entire staff of Niagara Seafood for hosting our October Social Meeting. A Special Thanks also to Schneider's Fish & Seafood for a lively discussion of oysters and other items of interest.

Welcome! To new members Quen Au, Francis K. Baker, Joseph Belardi, Michael Golba, Kevin Hyla, Judith R. Mokhiber, Jason Morgan, Elizabeth Podgorny, Megan Roffle, Dana Roman, Jean White, Oliver Wolf and Robin L. Stolinski

IMPORTANT NOTE! As previously announced, the Epicurean will no longer be printed and mailed out after the September edition. We will go to a digital format starting in October. For anyone concerned about access to a computer, we can still print a limited number of copies. Please respond to: ACF of Greater Buffalo
PO Box 61
Buffalo, NY 14207

Election 2015

The following people have been nominated for the open office positions for the start of the 2016 year.

Recording Secretary	Liz Rolan
Treasurer	Sarah Wells
Director-at-Large	Jane Cooke
Director-at-Large	Brett Brennan
Junior Board Member	Nick Geary
Associate Member	No 3rd position

This election is the future of this chapter. Thank you.

Help Wanted:

Please contact Neal Plazio at nplazio@verizon.net if your facility is in need of employees. We can post the ads in our newsletter and get the news to all of our local culinary schools.



Professional



Amateur



Gingerbread Competition

December 4th-7th 2015



College



High School



Children's

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October 1, 2015

2015
ACF Board of Directors

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Associate Board Member

Kevin Barron, Sysco Syracuse
Associate Board Member

Monica Phillips
Student Board Member

Dear Friends,

The ACF of Greater Buffalo will be hosting its annual Gingerbread Competition the weekend of December 4th - 6th, at the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute (28 Old Falls Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14303). NFCI has graciously agreed to be our venue sponsor. The competition categories are as follows:

Professional Division
Amateur Division
College Student Division
High School Student Division
Children's Division

As the holidays approach, we at the ACF of Greater Buffalo are looking forward to this *Gingerbread Competition and Auction*. Cash prizes & ribbons will be awarded to the first - third place winners in each category. Any proceeds from the auction will be donated to **The Food Bank of Western New York supporting Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara Counties**.

Activities will include a life size gingerbread house with Santa, cookie decorating for the kids, the beautiful gingerbread houses on display and a silent auction of the creations. Guests will have an opportunity to bid on houses. The winners of the house auctions will be notified Monday (7th) evening and the houses will be available for pick up after Tuesday (8th) between 9:30am – 5:30pm.

Also, the December ACF social meeting will be held at the Gingerbread Event on Monday December 7th from 6:00 – 8:30pm. In conjunction with the social meeting that evening, we will be organizing a small team "Mystery Basket" Gingerbread House Decorating Competition for Industry Professionals. Please contact Ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu for more details.

We look forward to your involvement with this event. Enclosed / attached you will find the competition guidelines and an entry form to complete and return to us. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call Scott Steiner at 716-698-5909 or by email at ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu . We can't wait to see your spectacular creation!

Sincerely,

Scott Steiner CCE, AAC
Gingerbread Competition Chair

What Division do I Compete in???

Professional Contestant is any graduate of a Baking & Pastry Arts Program or a baker or pastry chef / cook who is working in the industry.

Amateur Contestant is any individual ages 14 and above who has no formal baking and pastry arts training and is not working in the industry at any level. (If an individual is currently enrolled in a baking and pastry or culinary arts program, they must enter in the student division: Not as an Amateur).

College Student Contestant is any individual currently enrolled in a baking & pastry or culinary arts program at the collegiate level.

High School Student Contestant is any student enrolled in a BOCES Culinary Arts or Baking and Pastry Arts program or any high school program involved with food production. Many of the local high schools offer elective classes in family and consumer science that deal with culinary arts. A student enrolled in this type of class must enter the high school division.

Child Contestant is any child ages 7-13 who enjoys building & decorating gingerbread. The winners of this category will not receive a cash prize, but a basket filled with pastry utensils & gadgets.



American Culinary Federation
Greater Buffalo New York



Official Rules

1. Entry Forms

- a. Fill out an Official Entry Form and return to the committee chair no later than Friday, November 27, 2015.

2. Attach a 3" x 5" card listing your name, address and phone number on the underside of each entry.

3. Creations must fit on a 20" circular or square display board. It is highly recommended that the display board be constructed out of at least 1/2 inch thick MDO (Medium Density Overlay). Height can be no more than 24."

4. Entries will be judged in five (5) categories:

- a. Professional Division
- b. Amateur Division
- c. College Division – (Up to 5 entries per school can be displayed for judging)
- d. High School Division – (Up to 5 entries per school can be displayed for judging)
- e. Children's Division – New This Year

5. All entries must be brought to The Niagara Falls Culinary Institute on Thursday, December 3, 2015 between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm.

6. Please note all parts of Gingerbread House must be edible. (No foil or paper wrapping on candy) Gingerbread Houses may be mechanically enhanced.

7. Final judging will consist of four categories:

- a. Use of Gingerbread & Color
- b. Originality/Creativity
- c. Adherence to Guidelines
- d. Detail in Decoration

8. Judges' decisions will be final

9. The Ribbons will be laid out on Friday before the Unveiling Cocktail Party.

High School Division	College Division	Professional Division	Amateur Division	Children's Division
1 st Place: \$100.00	1 st Place: \$100.00	1 st Place: \$200.00	1 st Place: \$150.00	1 st Place: Pastry Basket (lg)
2 nd Place: \$50.00	2 nd Place: \$50.00	2 nd Place: \$100.00	2 nd Place: \$100.00	2 nd Place: Pastry Basket (med)
3 rd Place: \$25.00	3 rd Place: \$25.00	3 rd Place: \$50.00	3 rd Place: \$50.00	3 rd Place: Pastry Basket (sm)
People's Choice	People's Choice	People's Choice	People's Choice	People's Choice

DISCLAIMERS

- 1. ACF will not be responsible for any damage that occurs to the structures.
- 2. Entry into the contest will be deemed consent for use of entries, names and photos of entrants in all media for advertising and/or promotion purposes.
- 3. Proceeds will benefit The Food Bank of Western New York supporting Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara Counties.



2015 Gingerbread Competition Entry Form

Please **PRINT** Clearly

Entry Form Due No Later Than Friday, November 27, 2015

Division:

Children's

Professional

High School

Amateur

College

Business / School / Instructor Name *(for Amateur & Children's Division..... leave blank)*

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

I have read and understand and agree to all of the rules outlined in this packet:

Signature

Please mail, fax or scan & email to:

The Niagara Falls Culinary Institute

Attn: Scott Steiner CCE, AAC

28 Old Falls St.

Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Telephone: 716-698-5909 Fax: 716-210-2575 Email:

ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu

Schedule of Events

Thursday December 3, 2015
9:30am – 5:30pm

-House Drop-Off (Main Atrium @ NFCI)
-Private Judging to Take Place (6:00 – 7:00pm)

Friday December 4, 2015
6:00 – 9:00pm

-Unveiling Cocktail Party (Tickets Required)
-Silent Auction Opened (Bid on Houses)

Saturday December 5, 2015
1:00am – 8:00pm

-Open to the Public for Viewing
-Silent Auction is Open (Bid on Houses)
-Vote for People's Choice Awards

Sunday December 6, 2015
1:00 – 5:00pm

-Open to the Public for Viewing
-Silent Auction is Open (Bid on Houses)
-People's Choice Awards Announced

Monday December 7, 2015
6:00 – 8:30pm

-ACF Social Meeting (Reservations Required)
-Team (Mystery Basket) Gingerbread Decorating Competition for Industry Professionals
-Silent Auction Closed

Tuesday & Wednesday December 8 – 9, 2015

9:30am – 5:30pm

-Silent Auction Winner Notification & House Pick Up



Contact Information:

The Niagara Falls Culinary Institute

Attn: Scott Steiner CCE, AAC

28 Old Falls St.

Niagara Falls, NY 14303

Telephone: 716-698-5909

Fax: 716-210-2575

Email: ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu



Reservation / Ticket Information

Friday Night Unveiling Cocktail Party December 4, 2015

6:00- 9:00pm

Niagara Falls Culinary Institute

One complimentary ticket will be provided to each contestant entered in the gingerbread competition (*excluding the Children's category*). Additional tickets may be purchased for **\$20.00** at the door, but **reservations must be made in advance.**

To secure your additional tickets for the Unveiling Reception contact:

Scott Steiner CCE, AAC @

ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu or at 716-698-5909



Monday Night ACF Social Meeting @NFCI December 7, 2015

6:00 – 8:30pm

Niagara Falls Culinary Institute

Anyone may attend the ACF Social Meeting but **reservations are required** and there will be an admittance fee of **\$10.00.**

To Make Reservations for the ACF Social Meeting contact:

Scott Steiner CCE, AAC @

ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu or at 716-698-5909

ACF Gingerbread Event Sponsorship Levels:

Gingerbread Weekend Partnering Sponsorship (Grand Platinum) - \$1000.00

20 Tickets to the Cocktail Party

Logo & mention on all promotional event material and media advertisements

Two 24" x 36" Poster Board Signs displayed throughout the weekend event

Monitor Signage (exterior monitor)

Monitor Signage (all interior monitors)



Royal Icing Sponsorship (Gold) - \$500.00

10 tickets to the Cocktail Party

One 24" x 36" Poster Board Sign displayed throughout the weekend event

Monitor Signage (all interior monitors)



Candy Cane Sponsorship (Silver) - \$250.00

5 Tickets to the Cocktail Party

One 12" x 18" Poster Board Sign displayed throughout the weekend event

Monitor Signage (all interior monitors)



Gum Drop Sponsorship (Bronze) - \$100.00

2 Tickets to the Cocktail Party

Monitor Signage (all interior monitors)



To inquire about sponsorship contact:

Scott Steiner CCE, AAC @

ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu or at 716-698-5909

Concert / Choir Performance Opportunity

The Niagara Falls Culinary Institute

Saturday
12/5/15



Sunday
12/6/15

Gingerbread Village



Music for Gingerbread Weekend 2015

Niagara Falls Culinary Institute

28 Old Falls St.

Niagara Falls NY 14303



For more information Contact Scott Steiner
@ 716-698-5909 or ssteiner@niagaracc.suny.edu



Local School Choir Director Contacts:

David Curtis

*Niagara Wheatfield
Senior High*
Director of Choirs
dcurtis@nwcsd.org
215-3605

Michael Volpe

Starpoint High School
Instrumental Music Teacher
Room R-2
MVolpe@starpointcsd.org
625-7272 ext. 4202

ROBERT PACILLO

Lockport High School
Phone:
478-4450 ext. 5194
rpacillo@lockportschools.net

James Burritt

Lew Port High School
Phone:716-754-8281 ext 2421
E-Mail: burrittj@lew-port.com

GODWIN, LISA

Buffalo Public
lgodwin@buffaloschools.org
816-4818,

KERR, DONNA

Buffalo Public
dkerr@buffaloschools.org
816-4230,
Thebuffalodolls@gmail.com
827-0079

Claude Andres

Wilson High School
candres@wilsoncsd.org

Saturday 12/5/15:		Sunday: 12/6/15	
1:00pm	School Band / Concert Choir	1:00pm	School Band / Concert Choir
1:30	Sign Up: _____	1:30	Sign Up: _____
2:00	School Name: _____	2:00	School Name: _____
2:30	Contact: _____	2:30	Contact: _____
3:00	Break Down /Set up	3:00	Break Down /Set up
3:30	School Band / Concert Choir	3:30	School Band / Concert Choir
4:00	Sign Up: _____	4:00	Sign Up: _____
4:30	School Name: _____	4:30	School Name: _____
5:00	Contact: _____	5:00	Contact: _____
5:30	Break Down /Set up		
6:00	School Band / Concert Choir		
6:30	Sign Up: _____		
7:00	School Name: _____		
7:30	Contact: _____		
8:00	Break Down		





Epicureans
ACF of Greater Buffalo
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NOVEMBER



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