

Fun Was the Operative Term at Founders' Fun Fest

By Dawna Jarvis, Public Affairs

Mouths were burning, feet were turning and chili/salsa teams were yearning at the annual Founders' Fun Fest Oct. 7 at the Edwin Hornberger Conference Center. Many of the more than 1,600 staff, students, faculty, fellows and residents enjoyed the afternoon on the full dance floor while disc jockey Phillip Pampolina entertained, amused and taunted the crowd. Those not dancing were chomping at the tangy brisket, buttery corn and loaded nachos provided by Pappas Catering.

Adding to the fun-filled, event-packed afternoon, the traditional chili and salsa competition included teams sharing their delectable treats with attendees and enter-

taining the masses with their creative booths ranging from the Red Hot Nurses to Gene Wranglers.

Executive leaders and special guests from across the university joined the festivities and spent part of their time, along with 120 other volunteers, doing everything from serving beer in the beer garden to judging the cook-off competition.

The University Classified Staff Council (UCSC) had an amazing array of baskets and sports memorabilia donated for their annual silent auction to benefit the UCSC Student Scholarship fund. The auction earned \$2,100 for college-bound children of classified staff.

If you missed the fun this year, get out your pens and put "fun & food" on your calendar for next year. The date: Friday, Oct. 6, 2006. For more information about this year's Fun Fest and to see more photos of your friends and colleagues, visit the Web site at <http://www.uthouston.edu/funfest>.

Team winners

Chili
Grand Prize — Big Chief's Chili, Medical School/LBJ Hospital Chief of Staff office
Second — Chili Chicks, School of Public Health, Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
Third — Gene Wranglers, SPH, Human Genetics Center

Salsa

Grand Prize — Desperate Ex-Housewives, Administration, Office of Public Affairs
Second — The Red Hot Nurses, School of Nursing
Third — Spicy Salsa Specialists (SSS), SPH, Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health

Booth

First — Gene Wranglers
Second — Chili Chicks
Third — Big Chief's Chili

Showmanship

First — Gene Wranglers
Second — Chili Chicks
Third — Some Like it Hot, Dental Branch, Post Graduate Program



Decorations volunteer, Mamie Ellis, Dental Branch, takes time to taste the treats from Pappas Bar B Que. Photo by Nancy Hudgins



Keeping in step with the slip, upbeat crowds filled the dance floor while DJ Phillip Pampolina filled the center with music. Photo by Alejandra De Alvarado



Sheila Amiot, Office of Public Affairs, smiles as big as a jack-o-lantern after winning Grand Prize for her Scary Salsa. She holds both the traveling trophy and the one she gets to keep. Photo by Jeanette Quintanilla



Ice cream treats tempted the crowd including, left to right, Connie Tapper and Sharon Hammonds, School of Health Information Sciences, and Shannon Prater, Human Resources. Photo by Alejandra De Alvarado



James T. Willerson, M.D., health science center president, left, and the first place winner for showmanship, Charles Barnhart, Human Genetics Center, gather around the chili pot. Photo by Alejandra De Alvarado