



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SARATOGA CHOWDERFEST SETS RECORDS FOR ATTENDANCE AND CHOWDER SERVED

Saratoga Springs, NY- The 11th annual Saratoga Chowderfest (part of the 12th annual Winterfest Weekend) set records for participating chowder outlets, samples of chowder served, and by all appearances attendance.

According to the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau, this was the largest event ever, by any measure, including:

- 46 outlets (up from 36 last year) – including some innovative partnerships and new non-restaurant retailers who joined the Chowder event this year – including Johnny Miller Adventures, Crafters Gallery, Dawgdom, Ever After (partnership with Great Bay Clam Company), Feast Gallery on Beekman Street and Prestwick Chase, which offered horse-drawn carriage rides, ice sculpting and ice skating throughout the day.
- 42,743 servings of chowder from 11-4 pm – and several restaurants started early
- 30,000 biodegradable cups – blew through those by mid-day (some in the first two hours). Donated in partnership with Environmental Expo and Sysco Foods
- 5000 corn starch spoons, also donated by Environmental Expo
- Approximately 8500 people on the street
- Largest crowd so far for the dog-off – winner of the Dog-Off (decided by Mayor Scott Johnson's dog, Dr. Watson) and won for the second year in a row by Impressions of Saratoga
- Distributed nearly 1800 tee shirts – up from 1400 last year

Chowderfest 2009 Winners:

The winners-by vote of the chowder consumers themselves

- Best On Broadway—Stadium Café
- Best Off Broadway---Hattie's Restaurant
- Best Non-Downtown---Longfellows Restaurant
- Best Newcomer---Local Pub and Teahouse
- Best Canine---Sloppy Kisses
- Most Chowder Served—Cantina
- People's Choice---The Parting Glass

Chowderfest 2009 participants:

Newcomers- Beekman Street Bistro, Black Diamond Caterers (serving from 43 Phila Street), Caffe Lena, Crafters Gallery, Feast Gallery & Meeting Space, Jay's Bar and Grill, Inc.,

Liberty Bell Cheese Steaks, Sushi Thai Garden Restaurant, The Local Pub and Teahouse, West Side Stadium Café

Beverly's, Bookmaker's at Holiday Inn, Bread Basket Bakery, Brindisi's Restaurant & Bar, Cantina, Chianti Il Ristorante, Circus Café, Doc's Steakhouse, Esperanto, Forno Bistro, Four Seasons Natural Foods Store and Café, Gaffney's Restaurant, Great Bay Clam Company (served from Ever After), Grey Gelding Bistro & Bar, Hattie's Restaurant, Horseshoe Inn Bar & Grill (served from Bullpen), Lillian's Restaurant, Longfellows Restaurant, Olde Bryan Inn, One Caroline Street Bistro, Peabody's Sports Bar & Grille, Prestwick Chase at Saratoga.

“This was the best Chowderfest, ever – and we thank the enthusiastic support of our incredible members throughout Saratoga for their creativity and dedication,” said David Zunker, President of the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau, which coordinates the event each year. “Going Green was a theme that resonated with everyone and we look forward to continuing that theme in some form next year to make the event even bigger and better.”

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The Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau is an independent, not-for-profit destination marketing organization with the mission of attracting group business to the Saratoga area and to serve as a liaison between group buyers and local businesses.