

2009 Scovie Awards Winners Report



by Margaret Henderson, V.P. Sunbelt Shows, Inc.

Oh, sigh, another year of Scovie entries come and gone – sort of like the day after Christmas at the DeWitt house, all the boxes and packaging that had been crowding the living room for months are suddenly gone. This year was another wildly successful one for the Scovies and with so many entries we see a huge variety of products, packaging, labels, and once again some very creative shipping methods! Thanks to our outstanding panel of more than 75 judges, we were able get everything tasted and scored. Now that the results are in, here are some highlights.

This year we added an All-Natural category to the Barbecue Sauce, Salsa and Hot Sauce divisions. We also added a Low-Carb, Barbecue Sauce and Low-Sodium Rubs category. Obviously eating healthy is a priority because these turned out to be some of the largest categories this year. Also new this year was a split between Traditional Wing Sauces and other types of wing sauces. This also was very popular with entrants, and the judges enjoyed the change as well.



Chocolates from Bon Bon Bakery

Congratulations go out to our Grand Prize winner in the Tasting Division--BonBon Bakery for their Chile Verde Ganache with Sweet Corn. This was the first time that the company had entered the Scovie Awards. The company's other entry in the contest came in second Place in the Sweet Heat, Candy Division.. The Grand Prize winner for the Advertising & Marketing Division was Treasure Valley Salsa for their Black Bean & Corn Salsa label. Treasure Valley, also a first time Scovie entrant, took home three Scovies this year!



Treasure Valley Salsa Labels

Garden Fresh Salsa once again took home the largest number of Scovies this year with a total of 26 wins in a variety of categories including the Fresh Salsa, Prepared Dips, Chips, Salad Dressings and even a Queso dip. There were several other companies that took home multiple wins this year including Buffalo Wild Wings with nine wins; All Spice Café and Crazy Uncle Jester's Inferno World with seven wins each; Pace Foods with six wins for their new line of gourmet salsas; and Demitri's Bloody Mary Seasonings, Hungry Punker, Lynch BBQ Co., and My Favorite New Mexico Foods each had 5 wins.

Some of the new and unusual products entered this year include Matteos Psycho Eggs (pickled quail eggs) by Matteo's Salsa Loco; Duncan's Drunken' Weenies – SMOKIES (cocktail weenies in barbecue sauce) by Duncan Foods; Heather's Peach, Blueberry and Merlot Salsa by Heather's Heat and Flavor; and a cheesecake made with Crazy Uncle Jester's Inferno Jelly as a main ingredient.

A special thanks to Denice Skrepinski, who once again this year managed to prepare more than 100 cook-it-up entries to manufacturer's specifications and still make it look easy!

Congratulations to all our winners! Many of the winning products will also be available at the sold out 2009 National Fiery Foods & Barbecue Show February 27 – March 1 at the Sandia Casino & Resort in Albuquerque, New Mexico. For complete contact information on all winning products visit our website at www.fiery-foods.com.

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