

11.28.2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact: Liz Rogers, Galveston Restaurant Group
409.771.0051 | 409.750.8888 | liz@galvestonrestaurantgroup.com

LITTLE DADDY'S GUMBO BAR WINS 2011 FEAST WITH THE BEASTS AT HOUSTON ZOO

Little Daddy's Gumbo Bar emerged with first place honors at the sixth-annual Houston Zoo culinary event, Feast with the Beasts. The event, which took place on November 6, 2011, is an important fundraiser for the Zoo and featured a spectacular food competition with over 60 Houston area restaurants.

Little Daddy's Gumbo Bar dished out servings of its signature Chicken and Sausage Gumbo, alongside New-Orleans Style BBQ Oysters. The sold out crowd of 4,000 eagerly stood in lines to sample the fare and cast their vote.

Little Daddy's Gumbo Bar is the first franchise location of the Gumbo Bar concept, owned by Galveston Restaurant Group's Johnny Smecca, Joey Smecca and Danny Hart. The League City, Texas location opened doors in February 2011 and is currently pursuing additional Houston area franchise locations. The restaurateurs introduced Gumbo Bar to the dining scene in 2008, after Hurricane Ike left a void in the Postoffice Street Arts & Entertainment District. The concept has since steadily gained popularity for its casual Creole-style menu and live, steam kettle cooking.

"Feast with the Beast is a fantastic event and an honor to participate in," commented owner Danny Hart. "However, preparing dishes like gumbo and oysters for a crowd of 4,000 is certainly a challenge that requires massive planning and skilled execution from our staff. Being rewarded for that effort with the first place win makes it all worthwhile."

Galveston Restaurant Group has supported the local Galveston community for almost 40 years, providing meals and fundraising support for schools, non-profits and community groups island-wide. Because of the growth of the Gumbo Bar restaurants, this outreach now is able to assist Houston area groups through participation in events such as Taste of the Nation at The Houstonian, Rodeo Uncorked at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and Feast with the Beasts at the Houston Zoo.

"Gumbo Bar is our first franchise and its arms are reaching far beyond the Island. Being able to come to a significant Houston culinary event and win is not only a testament to the quality and uniqueness of our food, but our commitment to the Houston food scene" remarked Hart.

Galveston Restaurant Group is a multifaceted restaurant company comprised of Johnny Smecca, Joey Smecca and Danny Hart. Galveston Restaurant Group owns and operates Mario's Seawall Italian Restaurant, Gumbo Bar, Saltwater Grill, Sky Bar Steak & Sushi, Papa's Pizza and Little Daddy's Gumbo Bar. Visit them online at www.GalvestonRestaurantGroup.com.