DECEMBER 2009

FOOD ARTS

AT THE RESTAURANT AND HOTEL FOREFRONT

2009 IN REVIEW

Variety & Warmth

Divvy Up the C

Say Cheese

EDITED BY BEVERLY STEPHEN

1. Zoom For The Cure. Sarabeth and Bill Levine, on the pink Vespa that was the talk of SHARE's sixth annual "A Second Helping of Life" September benefit auction that raised $405,000 for women with breast and ovarian cancer. Celebrities paired up at stations with women chefs to feed 700. Photo by Howard Wechsler.

2. Starry Night. Applause for Daniel Boulud (left) for his long overdue third Michelin star. Here Boulud is congratulated by three-star Jean-Georges Vongerichten (right) and *Michelin Guides* director Jean-Luc Naret at the October 5 soirée celebrating the release of the fifth annual New York City guide. Photo by Neil Rasmus/Patrick McMullan Company.

3. Potato Power. Alex Stratta (third from left) of Alex at Wynn Las Vegas took top honors, assisted by sous chefs Joseph Leibowitz (center) and Erik Plank (second from right), at the third annual Idaho Potato Commission Chef Challenge at the American Wine & Food Festival, held at Universal Studios in Los Angeles in October. The grand prize? A $10,000 donation made in his name to the Puck Lazaroff Charitable Foundation, benefiting the Los Angeles Chapter of Meals on Wheels. Presenting the check were IPC's Frank Muir (far left) and Don Odiorne (far right). Barbara Lazaroff (second from left) and Wolfgang Puck (fifth from left) joined in.

4. Here's To Jack. Some might have been disappointed when chef Duff Goldman of *Ace of Cakes* fame cut into a whiskey barrel only to reveal it was really a pumpkin and chocolate chip cake. But there was plenty of liquid refreshment on hand for the Jack Daniel's September birthday bash at the James Beard House in New York City. Jasper Newton "Jack" Daniel, represented here by a 60 pound chocolate figure, was born in September 1850.

5. Class Reunion. The best and brightest have toiled in the kitchens of Le Cirque, which celebrated its 35th anniversary in October. Here ringmaster Sirio Maccioni is flanked by (clockwise from left) Michael Lomonaco, Craig Hopson, Alex Stratta, Daniel Boulud, Geoffrey Zakarian, Pierre Schaedelin, Alain Allegretti, and Bill Telepan. The dinner for 130 people benefited Citymeals on Wheels. ■