American Culinary Federation Harrisburg Chapter- PA181



MISE EN PLACE July 2022



President's Greeting

Good day to you all!

It was great to see some of you at our July Chapter gathering at HACC! Our next meeting is sure to be a great one. I hope many of you plan to attend on **Monday**, **August 15**th **at 7pm at Cork & Fork Osteria**. *Thank you to Eric Lasek CC* for coordinating our meeting to be held there! Chef Lance Smith will be presenting to our members about all things Pizza. It is sure to be a great meeting!

With most schools starting August 29th, I encourage you to spread the word about the ACF and our local chapter with new and returning students. I will be reaching out to each school to help get students signed up for their memberships and welcoming them into our chapter! Remember, as of January, all students (secondary and post-secondary) will receive free memberships and certifications! For all the students and educators~ I wish you all the best as you start a fresh school year!

Throughout this newsletter, please enjoy the vast pictures from our full Summer Farm Tour. Thank you to all that were able to join in with this amazing experience this summer! A huge thank you to all the farmers that took their time to educate us on PA agriculture!

I look forward to sharing the highlights from the ACF National Convention in Las Vegas with you all. There were many great presentations, guest speakers, and connections made!

Be well, stay healthy and happy.

Chef Autumn Patti, ACF Harrisburg Chapter President



Ingredient of the Month: July 2022

Overview and Flavor

Capers are the un-ripened flower buds of the caper bush, also known as Flinders rose. Capers are small, oval and an olive-green color. They're not to be confused with caper berries—the ripe fruit of the caper plant which is also commonly consumed. While capers are edible, they are very bitter. To make them palatable, the immature buds are either cured in salt or pickled in brine. Capers have a trademark savory flavor that is often described as being similar to black pepper or mustard.

Capparis spinosa, or caper bush, is a perennial plant that bears rounded, fleshy leaves and large white to pinkish-white flowers. The flower buds are harvested before the flower blooms. Caper blooms from May to August and the bush starts to produce flowers 3 years after planting. Flowers emit sweet aroma which attracts insects responsible for the pollination.

Capers are native to almost all the Mediterranean countries. The caper bush is well-adapted to the poor soil and harsh heat but it is sensitive to overly humid or cold climates.

It is believed capers originated from the arid regions in western and central Asia where they have been used for thousands of years. Capers are mentioned in the Gilgamesh, found on ancient Sumerian clay tablets, dating back to 2700 B.C. There are also writings of Dioscorides, a surgeon in Nero's army, which confirms that the plant was used by the ancient Greeks as an ingredient in cooking as well as for medicinal purposes.

Healthy Ingredient Contribution

Capers are considered a low-calorie food and contain nutrients such as vitamins A, E and K and are a source of copper, iron and magnesium. However, since they aren't eaten in large quantities, they don't offer significant nutritional value. As well, capers are brined or cured, and contain a high quantity of sodium which is associated with high blood pressure.

Types and Varieties

Caper buds are categorized based on their size. The flower buds can reach sizes of about 14 mm before they are picked. The buds are picked by hand and are sorted into different sizes before they bloom into flowers.

The two most commonly sold varieties are capote capers and nonpareil capers. The smallest buds picked from the caper bush are packaged as nonpareil capers and they are under 7 mm in size. These smaller capers are the most desirable as they have a more subdued flavor and are firmer in texture. Capote capers are between 7 mm to 11 mm and closer to blooming than nonpareil capers. The capote capers also have a softer texture and more intense flavor.

Other readily available caper varieties include surfines, capucines and fines. Grusas, which measure over 14mm in diameter, are less common. Larger capers tend to be more acidic and pickling recipes need to be adjusted accordingly.

* If the caper isn't harvested as an immature bud, it grows into a caperberry. A caperberry is about the same size as a small olive, has a long stem and small seeds inside. Their larger size makes them softer in texture than capers, Caperberries do not have the same sharp flavor as capers so they should not be used interchangeably in recipes.

Selecting and Storing

BRINED CAPERS

These commonly found capers are stored in glass bottles and covered with a salt water brine. The brine, which almost always includes vinegar, preserves the capers almost indefinitely, making them the ultimate shelf-stable flavor booster. However, the sharper vinegar notes can sometimes dominate the caper's delicate flavor.

SALT-CURED CAPERS

These capers are packaged in nothing but sea salt. The salt accentuates the capers' flavor without overpowering it, but the capers will dry out over time. In the store, look for salt-cured capers that are plump rather than shriveled and with salt that is white rather than tinted yellow, which is a sign they have been sitting on the shelf for a while.

OIL-PACKED CAPERS

Capers are sometimes jarred with nothing more than extravirgin olive oil. The oil helps preserve the capers while maintaining their fresh taste and crunch. This variety is not as commonly found in stores.

DEHYDRATED CAPERS

Dehydrated capers, sometimes called dry capers, are typically salted for about a month until they undergo lacto-fermentation. The salt then gets washed away and the capers are dehydrated until crisp. Dehydrated capers are the least commonly found and tend to be more expensive than other varieties.

Culinary

In cooked dishes, it's best to add capers toward the end of cooking, which allows the buds to keep their shape, color and taste. This also prevents capers from becoming bitter if they're simmered too long.

Capers are commonly used in Mediterranean cuisine. They are a staple in many seafood dishes, pasta sauces such as puttanesca sauce and signature recipes like vitello tonnato.

Capers complement lemons and they often appear together in recipes like chicken piccata.

In the U.S. capers are served with cold smoked salmon or cured salmon dishes, especially lox and cream cheese. Capers are sometimes added to chicken salad, pasta salad, potato salad, and deviled eggs.

When they're finely chopped, capers provide a bright, briny backbone to tapenade, dressings, compound butters and condiments like tartar sauce.

Capers and caper berries are sometimes substituted for olives to carnish martinis.

Interesting Facts

Caper is used in the cosmetic industry for the manufacture of various creams and hair care products.

Capers should not be mistaken with the caper spurge. Caper Spurge takes its name from the seed pods which look like capers but are very poisonous. All parts of the plant, including the seeds and roots are poisonous. Handling may also cause skin irritation as the plant produces latex.

Dried caper leaves are also used as a substitute for rennet in the manufacturing of high-quality cheese.

Presented by American Culinary Federation Education Foundation

Recipe of the Month

From the Kitchen of your Vice President Chef Thomas J Long CEC AAC



Fresh Flounder Piccata

This is a quick and easy preparation technique that can used to prepare flat boneless fish fillets, boneless chicken breast, veal & pork cutlets.

Yield-2 portions



Ingredients

½ cup all-purpose flour
½ tsp kosher salt
¼ tsp cracked black pepper
4 two-ounce skinless flounder fillets
2 large eggs
3 tbsp drawn butter
½ cup white wine
2 tsp capers drained
Juice of ½ lemon (reserve second half for garnish)
2 tbsp fresh chopped parsley

Directions:

Season flour with salt and pepper and place in a pie tin or plate to be able to coat flounder. In a 1-quart bowl crack eggs and mix well with a wire whip. Place flour coated flounder into egg mixture.

In a 12-inch nonstick skillet heat over medium -high heat add butter. One at a time place flounder bone side down into hot skillet. Do not overlap fillets. Cook on one side for 1 -2 minutes and gently turn over to cook on skin side for an additional 1-2 minutes. Add white wine, lemon juice and capers to pan and simmer for 1 minute. Remove from heat and plate up flounder with two portions per plate. Pour pan sauce over fish and garnish with lemon twists and chopped parsley.

Minutes from July 18, 2022:

- ❖ President Chef Patti requested the meeting be brought to order at 7:02pm. Motion: Micah Solomon, 2^{nd:} Chef Padamonsky. Accepted by all. Motion passed.
- ❖ Welcome & Introductions Chef Patti welcomed all, and the members present went around the room introducing themselves. Welcome to all!
- ❖ Pledge of Allegiance: Chef Tom Long led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Culinarian Code**: Bachir Harou Oumarou read the Culinarian Code.
- ❖ Board in attendance: Present— Chef Autumn Patti, Chef Thomas J Long, Chef Cher Harris & Renee J Nasta
- **Number of participants in attendance: 21**

Education

Taste of PA's Bounty - President Chef Patti and VP Chef Tom Long presented demonstrations featuring fresh summer produce from farms located in Central PA. Many of the items used were grown at the farms we visited in our Farm Tour Series.







Summer 2022 Farm Tour







Chef Patti demonstrated a Kale, Apple and Fennel slaw to pair with the pulled pork or Bow Creek sliders in our meal. A Green Goddess dressing was made using a plethora of fresh herbs from the farms to highlight a bountiful salad full of fresh vegetables.

VP Chef Long made us a White Peach Shortcake with Vanilla whipped crème filling. Fresh white peaches were used from Strite's orchard, and he made a Spiced Rum and Peach syrup to round out this delicious desert!



This evening's menu inspired by our Farm Series~











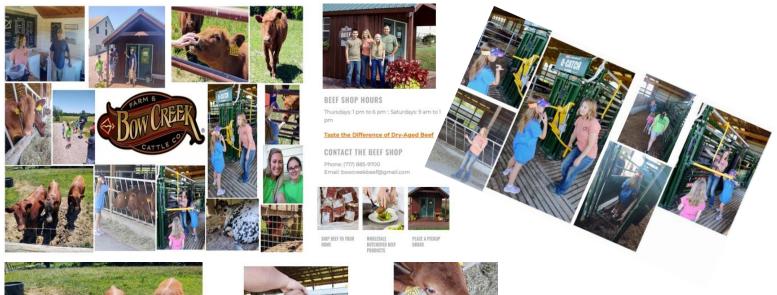






Summer Farm Tour Presentation:

Micah Solomon spoke about the great visit to Bow Creek Farm at the meeting.















Excellence.









WELCOME TO BOW CREEK FARM HERSHEY, PA

Beef Perfectly Bred and Raised for Excellence.

Bow Creek Farm sets a goal to provide the most discriminating Pennsylvania grown beef product available. Superior cattle, lush green pastures, and hay & grains grown on the farm makes our Premium Bed Angus beef the fi







Michael Harants spoke about the chilly, but fantastic visit to Nine Pines Farm at the meeting.

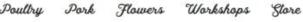




Nine Pines Farm

is proud to grow the highest quality product we can at an affordable price. We strongly value the local economy and support other small local businesses as much as possible.

3301 East Berlin Rd, York, PA 17408 717-659-6527 ninepinesfarm717@gmail.com



















John Reis discussed the awesome visit to Spiral Path Farm at the meeting.



Welcome to Spiral Path Farm

Our farm is located in South Central Pennsylvania, in scenic western Perry County, between the Tuscarora and Blue Mountain ranges. Near the town of Loysville, Spiral Path Farm is home to the Brownback family since 1978. We farm all of the 300 acres organically and have been USDA certified organic since 1994.

OUR MISSION

We are committed to building the fertility of our soils and health of our farm and surrounding woodlands. We strive to provide wonderful tasting, fresh produce to our customers, loaded with nutritional value.

OUR PRODUCE

We serve our CSA members in Central Pennsylvania and at our Farmer's Market locations in Bethesda and Silver Spring, MD. We also grow, pack, and ship certified organic produce wholesale for Wegmans.















WANT TO SUPPORT AND COMMIT TO LOCAL AGRICULTURE?

Now is the time to join and lock in your produce source with a Community Supported Agriculture membership!

Each week you will receive a share of delicious produce picked and packed at its peak ripeness, flavor, and nutritional content.













And Autumn Patti spoke about the fantastic tour of the LEAF Project Farm, as well as her experience volunteering with the Youth Program this summerr.



















Student Entries

And the winning

recipe is....







Thank you to **Chef John Reis** for judging all of our entries!

And thank you to Chris Ditlow
from Laser Leaf for the beautiful
plaque!

Secretary's Report-Summer Mise en Place

President Chef Patti requested a Motion to accept the May 18th Minutes as presented in the Summer 2022 Mise en Place. Motion made by Chef Harants, 2nd by Chef Gipe- Accepted by all, Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report-July 2022

Checking account: \$688.14
Saving account \$7857.77
Scholarship Acct \$2506.86
TOTAL \$11,052.77

- No Scholarship Applications were received so the window will close. We will reopen in the Spring in time for Fall semester planning.
- ❖ If you would like to donate to our student scholarship fund, please make checks payable to Harrisburg ACF Chapter PA 181 and give to a member of the Board or through Venmo- use Cher Harris/pastry-queen-14
- ❖ Motion to approve made by Chef Gipe, 2nd by Micah Solomon- Accepted by all, Motion passed.

Membership in the Community

- ❖ Share events you are involved in with this form: <u>Click here</u>
- ❖ Congratulations to the 2022 National SkillsUSA Baking Champion from Lebanon Co. CTC *Gracie Adams. Way to get that GOLD!! Congratulations to all the students that competed.*
- Congratulations to the members receiving new Certified Culinarian, CC Certifications!
- ❖ As a reminder, the 1st Week in August a local campaign is asking Chefs to feature 1 Local Ingredient in 1 Dish, for 1 Week in August. Thank you for your support!

National Updates

Autumn reviewed her plans to attend the National Convention in Las Vegas. She reviewed her presentation for the Chapters Supporting Chapters Presentation at the National Convention with the members present for feedback.



















Chapter Updates

- ❖ Alex's Chili Cookoff for a Cause will be held on Sunday, Sept. 25th at Greystone Public House. Thank you to Charlie Gipe for volunteering to head up the chili production!
- ❖ Savor at the LEAF Farm, Sept 17th- Chapter members agreed to commit to offering a Chef dinner for the Silent Auction.
- ❖ PRLA Hospitality Boot Camp Nov. 9th at the Holiday Inn Grantville. Chefs Patti, Reis, and Harris will be participating in the hands-on sections. This event is intended to attract students to our industry that are not currently in a hospitality program.

Mentorship

Our chapter is committed to the growth of all Culinarians through Mentorship. Our primary directive is to *Welcome-Engage-Empower-Promote* through Mentorship. Visit our website to sign up to be a mentor or express your desire for mentorship!

<u>Motion to adjourn the meeting</u>: Chef Marolf; 2nd by Chef Padamonsky- Accepted by all, Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

2022 Meeting Locations & Education

In person meetings begin at 7pm

Links and information are also found on our website: www.acfharrisburg.org

January 17, 2022	Held Via Zoom: https://youtu.be/nd_UydNJJWM
February 21, 2022	Panera Bread, Union Deposit location Bread Baking Series Part 1- Sourdough Baking
March 21, 2022	Mount Joy Campus of Lancaster Co. CTC & Zoom Bread Baking Series Part –6:30pm Hands-on Challah braiding
April 18, 2022	JDK Catering Executive Chef Jay Varga, "State of the Catering Industry 2022"
May 16, 2022	Dodge City Steakhouse, Executive Chef Doug Krick Member Chef Sian Rose with Taste the Caribbean
June 20, 2022	HERSHEYPARK!
June 20, 2022 July 18, 2022	HERSHEYPARK! HACC, Summer Farm Tour Presentation
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July 18, 2022	HACC, Summer Farm Tour Presentation
July 18, 2022 August 15, 2022	HACC, Summer Farm Tour Presentation Cork & Fork Osteria, Pizzas
July 18, 2022 August 15, 2022 September 19, 2022	HACC, Summer Farm Tour Presentation Cork & Fork Osteria, Pizzas Dauphin County Technical School- Smithfield Pork

2022 MEETING HOSTS & EDUCATION PRESENTERS NEEDED

If you are interested in hosting a meeting or would like to provide an educational component, please contact Autumn Patti at arpatti@hacc.edu or acfharrisburg@gmail.com



ACF Harrisburg Chapter PA181 2021-2022 Officers

President:

Chef Autumn Patti

Program Director, Asst. Professor Culinary Arts, Baking & Pastry Arts Programs HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College arpatti@hacc.edu

Vice President:

Chef Thomas J Long CEC AAC

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Treasurer:

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Corporate Pastry Chef

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Student Representative:

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HACC Culinary, Baking & Pastry Arts student

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Chairman of the Board:
Chef Brian D. Peffley, CEPC CCE AAC

Pastry Instructor
Lebanon County C.T.C.

BPeffley@lcctc.k12.pa.us

Culinarian's Code

As a proud member of the American Culinary Federation,

I pledge to share my professional knowledge and skill with all Culinarians.

I will place honor, fairness, cooperation and consideration first when dealing with my colleagues.

I will keep all comments professional and respectful when dealing with my colleagues.

I will protect all members from the use of unfair means, unnecessary risks and unethical behavior when used against them for another's personal gain.

I will support the success, growth, and future of my colleagues and this great federation.