

Continental Administration of WACS Report

From: Chef Jorge E. Monti de Valssasina
To: WACS Worldwide Administration

On March 6, 2004, I was elected to work as the America Continental director of WACS for the next two years. Immediately, I started to work from Brazil and developed the following steps:

1- I named Chef Gustavo Mendez Graciano ACF as collaborator and assistant of the Continental Administration so that he can be my interlocutor with the WACS Presidency and to give assistance with the countries which belong to America.

2- I set up a communication channel with all the countries members of WACS America through e-mail showing the ideas of the Administration and expressing my will to help in all the WACS matters.

3- We make the translation of the sent documents through chef Gustavo Graziano so that they can be forwarded to other countries because 80% of the members are speakers of the Spanish language.

4- The Questionnaires were sent by e-mail to all the continental members.

5- Documents and notifications were sent to the new members of WACS: Bolivia and Bahamas.

6- We inform the presidency of all the matters and always send a copy to the president on the up to date information and all the changes on the WACS web page which were requested by Mr. Peter Knipe.

7- On April, we made a cocktail in Brazil to inform all the ABAGA Associates and the Brazilian Press about the designation of the Continental Administration of America.

8- We informed the presidency about the conflicts occurred in Equator and received many letters by e-mail with some doubts about the recognition of WACS and the Equator Association of chefs which is presided by chef Mauricio Armendariz. Our reply was immediate and incisive in order to follow the instructions of the general assembly. The authorities recognized by it, got through with the controversy and took the analysis to the presidency at the Orlando meeting.

9- We are making official contacts with Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela to see how they can join the WACS members in the future.

10- We are creating a new communication channel with Colombia, which is giving us some signals of participation and existence.

11- We are supporting the activities of the "Forum Panamericano de Associações Culinárias" (Panamerican Forum of Culinary Association) in the events that will take place during the month of September in Guatemala. Contests of national and international culinary will be done and the chef Luis Perrot will be the jury president of the event.

12- We will be supporting the hunger march in Guatemala which will take place in October in an indigenous village where 2500 people live. A lunch will be served for the Indians with the support and financial sponsorship of national and international sponsors including the aid of the EEUU embassy in Guatemala. The event will be coordinated by the chef Gustavo Graziano ACF and organized by the Guatemala association of culinary art. Further information on the e-mail.

13- In September, the 5^o gastronomy festival will take place in the city of Habana- Cuba. The Cuba association has invited us, but unfortunately,

we will not be able to go. We are thinking about some way of being represented in the event.

14- In June, the contests of best apprentice cook and best apprentice confectioner took place in Brazil (city of Pelotas-RS) at SENAC (National School of Professional Formation). The American administration gave institutional support as the way as ABAGA. The event lasted for four days and mobilized 150 students, chefs and confectioners. This event took place inside the national event FENADOCE.

15- In November, the FENAOSTRA- "Festa Nacional da Ostra" (National party of oyster) will be materialized in Brazil. This event takes place every year and is organized by ABAGA. Many contests are made, for instance: Gourmet, Professional chefs, children and cooking workshops. This year, we will be making a new contest of international quality with the support of the local city hall and many sponsors. Six countries, including Brazil, will participate in this contest. Members of the Panamerican Forum of Culinary Association and members of WACS will participate through invitation.

16- ABAGA has just inaugurated a gastronomy web channel in Brazil. This channel will be at WACS' and forum's disposal in order to make public some news, events, etc.

17- In the end of June, we visited the "Centro de cocineros de la Republica Argentina" in Buenos Aires to see their situation and talk to its vice-president so that we could know more about the projects. We visited some gastronomy schools: Maussi Sebes (1000 students) and the Professional Argentine Institute (3300 students), our purpose was to know their academic level and their establishment.

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