

# MANDY RITTER

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THE INAUGURALART OF BBQ COOK-OFF WAS HELD JULY 1ST AND 2ND 2022 AT LOGAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE AFTER 4 MONTHS OF PLANNING

28 BBQ TEAMS FACED OFF FOR THIS YEAR'S KCBS COMPETITION. PRIZES TOTALED OVER \$8,000.00. TEAMS SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS PREPARING AND COOKING FAVORITE RECIPES FOR BEEF BRISKET, PULLED PORK, RIBS, AND CHICKEN JUDGED BY KANSAS CITY BBQ SOCIETY RULES AND REGULATIONS.

THERE WAS A RMBBQA AMATEUR BACKYARD CATEGORY WITH 8

TEAMS. PRIZES SPONSORED BY BOMGAARS

JULY JAMZ CONCERT FRIDAY NIGHT FEATURING RUSTY 44

SATURDAY EVENTS INCLUDED A CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT, KIDS ACTIVITIES, PEOPLE'S CHOICE BBQ TASTING BY 12 TEAMS LIVE MUSIC BY THE ATOMIC DRIFTERS.

KCBS AND BACKYARD JUDGING AND AWARDS

SUNDAY AND MONDAY CONTINUED HERITAGE ON THE PLAINS CAR SHOW, RETRO BASEBALL GAME, BLACKSMITHING DEMOS, LIVE MUSIC, GAMES AND FIREWORKS

### Budget Estimate

Budget Actual

Estimated Expenses \$13,954

\$8000 in Sponsorships

Estimated Income \$34,850

Tasting Ticket sales \$2,000

Estimated Gain \$20,896

Actual Expenses \$7,345.54

28 Teams

\$4000 in Sponsorships

Actual Income \$12,397.45

Tasting Ticket sales totaled \$4,297

Actual gain \$5,051

In-Kind Income \$ 4,750 In Kind Donations: Radio Ads, Print Ads, Generators, Prizes for backyard competition, Trophies, Water, Ice, Port a potties/handwashing stations, sanitation, trash receptacles, security, team and judge gift bags, judging space, lodging for representatives,



## **BBQ** Competition

- Decided on date and cooperation with annual Heritage on the Plains Festival Chamber of Commerce (Beer and Wine Tasting) and Overland Trail Museum (Advertising Funds) and 2022 July Jamz (Entertainment). Sterling Livestock Commission offered to be our sponsor volunteer.
- 2. Achieved Sanctioning through Kansas City BBQ Society and Rocky Mountain BBQ Association Received workbook, sample budget. Spoke with KCBS Representative weekly
- Completed forms with Heath Department, city and county permits and street closures as well as organizing judging area in local church
- 4. Organized the first RMBBQA Backyard competition with RMBBQA Representative
- 5. Attended organizer training at Lamar's 13<sup>th</sup> annual BBQ Cook off. Set KCBS Entry Fees at \$250, Backyard Entry \$100, Vendor Fees \$100. 12 tasting tickets for \$25, samples from teams competing in People's Choice competition.
- 6. Attained \$5000 advertising grant from lodging tax for Heritage Festival including BBQ. Gathered sponsorships and in-kind support from local businesses and artists.
- 7. Provided lodging, food, drink and local attraction information packets with gift bags to teams, reps and judges







## What we learned for next year...

- Overwhelmingly positive turnout from community to do tasting/People's Choice portion. Ran out of food after 800 tickets.
- Provide sample size tasting plates/forks and prepare teams for quantity to distribute
- Find more BBQ vendors to sell BBQ meals both days
- Have BBQ portal on website for teams to submit all forms electronically including W-9
- Ask neighbors/courthouse to turn off sprinklers on Friday night so no one gets wet!
- Make follow up calls 2 days before on all outside parties. Ex. street barricades, generators, volunteers, neighbors, sanitation etc.
- Have back up generators to the backup generators
- Needed larger volunteer base about 5 people short
- Beer and wine tasting from Chamber was denied by alcohol commission night before event.
- Sponsorship volunteers did not follow through on estimated funds. More communication and more people working on sponsorships next year.
- Take a whole year to plan.....yay!

#### Positive Outcomes

- Connections made with agricultural community
- Increase in tourism, sales tax and lodging tax for month of July
- Community awareness of LOCAL Creative District and LOCAL membership drive at Art of BBQ and July Jamz
- Partnerships with other local organizations was strengthened.
- Event highlighted local artists with ceramic, wood working and metal work trophies as well as vendor opportunities to local artisans at event.
- Two bands were hired and performed for the community.
- Actual gain was low but with adjustments to operations and growth each year income to LOCAL should increase in 2023











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