

Xhilaration Youth Group's

"WARM BELLIES AND GOOD SMELLIES" CHILI CHALLENGE

Event Sponsor



DATE: Saturday, January 6th, 2024
TIME: 5:30pm (Setup); Event 6:00-8:00pm
LOCATION: Luana Savings Bank Community Room



CALL FOR ENTRIES

Chili cooks — jot down your secret recipe, or Google one, get your cooking gear together, grab some friends and join the Xhilaration Youth Group's January Chili Challenge.

Not only will you compete with some of the great (or not so great!) chili cooks in the city, but the money raised will help local youth reach out to the residents of Mexico, Missouri, where they will be travelling this summer to engage in home repair ministries.

There are no entry fees, however, contestants are responsible for supplying their own crock pots, extension cords, cooking utensils, condiments (i.e.: cheese, onions, crackers), and decorations for their serving area. Each cook is responsible for preparing at least 5 quarts of their chili recipe, which they bring pre-made to the event. Polk City UMC will provide each cook with a serving area and access to electrical power. The Xhilaration Youth Group will manage the distribution of bowls, spoons, desserts, and beverages.

While this competition is all about bragging rights, Best Chili Certificates will be given in the categories of People's Choice and Judge's Choice and a Special Grand Champion given to select Celebrity Chefs.



Please be aware that the number of entries may be limited, due to space and power considerations. You are encouraged to complete and return your entry form as soon as possible.

As cooks, you are vital in helping spread the word about this fun and worthwhile event. If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Mike Hurt 515-314-8979.



CHILI CHALLENGE ENTRY FORM

Mail to: January
Chili Challenge
1421 W. Broadway St.
Polk City, IA 50226

Questions?
Contact Mike Hurt at (515) 314-8979
or e-mail: Hurtstown@hotmail.com

Chili Name: _____

"Heat Level": Mild Medium Hot Melt Your Face

Name of Chili Cook: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Zip _____

Official Rules and FAQ's for Xhilaration Youth Group's Worth the Weight Chili Challenge

When and where is the event being held?

- The Worth the Weight Chili Challenge, scheduled to run from 6:00pm-8:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 6th 2024, will be held at the Luana Savings Community Room.

Who can participate?

- Anyone can enter the Chili Challenge Competition. An adult must be present with any contestant under the age of 18.
- The Chili Challenge is for cooks who just want to have fun and be recognized for their superb culinary skills.
- We have a special VIP Trophy given to special entries from the Community Departments and Businesses

Do I have to register? What is the cost?

- There are no entry fees.
- The number of chili cooks may be limited, due to space and power limitations.

What do I need to bring; what is provided?

- Polk City UMC will provide a table/serving area and a power source for each chili cook.
- Polk City UMC will provide serving cups and spoons for the public.
- Chili cooks are responsible for their own serving equipment (crockpots), serving utensils and aprons/chef hats (if you so desire). Extension cords and/or power strips are recommended.
- Chili container must be a crock-pot which will maintain a chili temperature of 140 degrees or higher.

How much chili should I make? Are there any restrictions?

- A minimum of 5 quarts of chili must be available for the tasting.
 - Please provide as much chili as possible. We ask that you serve no more than a one-cup serving per person.
- Chili must be cooked at home and brought on-site and "ready-to-eat" the day of the cook-off.
- There are no rules on the contents of chili—any ingredient may be used (contestants must be willing to eat their own chili).
- A complete list of ingredients used to make the chili must be available for each entry (quantities need not be included; you need not give away the recipe). The list should be available for those who may have food allergies, etc.
- Contestants are responsible for their own garnishes (toppings that go best with your chili—sour cream, chives, chips, crackers, etc.) which should be simple and complement the dish being presented.
- At the conclusion of the evening, each cook is responsible for cleaning up and removing all items from their area. No items shall be allowed to remain after the close of the Chili Challenge.
- Worth the Weight Chili Challenge is a "no rules" event and is not sanctioned by any official chili competition.

When can we set up? Where should I park?

- Chili cooks may begin setting up your area as early as 5 p.m. and should make every effort to be on-site no later than 5:30 p.m. Your chili should be lukewarm or hot when you arrive, so there isn't any lag time for it to "heat up" before the official judging begins.
- Set-up of your assigned area must be complete, and chili must be ready to serve to the public by 6:00 p.m. and to official judges at 6 pm.
- Chili cooks are encouraged to unload their food and supplies at the front of the building and then park their vehicles in the parking lot.

Judging & Awards

- Certificates will be awarded for the top three entries in both the People's Choice and the Judge's Choice categories and the Traveling trophy for the VIP Competition.
- People's Choice: The Xhilaration Youth Group will encourage attendees to cast their vote for their favorite chili by depositing a monetary donation in a 9x13 envelope located near each contestant's serving area. Each envelope will be clearly labeled with the name of each contestant's chili.
 - Judging by the public begins at 6 p.m., with the final count of the donations collected beginning at 7:15 p.m. The chili cook that collects the most donations in their envelope wins the People's Choice Certificate and bragging rights for a year! The winner will be announced, and the Certificate awarded at approximately 8PM
- Judge's Choice:
 - The Xhilaration Youth Group will elect 4-5 official judges prior to the event. Judging by the officials begins at 6 p.m.
 - Judging will be based on Color, Aroma, Consistency, Taste and Aftertaste.
 - The chili selected by the officials wins the Judge's Choice Certificate and bragging rights for a year! The winner will be announced, and the Certificate awarded at approximately 8 p.m.
 - VIP Grabd Champion
 - Champion will be awarded to Select Celebrity Chefs based on 70% of Judges Scores and 30% of People choice measured by Donations.