

Les Marmitons of Ottawa/Hull

January 21 meeting: Thanks to Rodolfo, we were able to bring back a good friend of the Marmitons, **Scot Cunningham**, of the '**Slybacon Kitchen**' to be our Guest Chef for a great kickoff to the New Year. Many members observed that the variety of dishes was tremendous and that tastes were superb. Of note, was the oven-roasted sea bass which some deemed "outstanding". We will attempt to have recipes posted on the web site soonest for those who could not attend this fine event. Chef Cunningham had contributed already to the club's silent auction at our Christmas event, so we wish to pass on extra thanks for his time and efforts on behalf of Les Marmitons activities.

Executive Committee Changes: **Rodolfo** announced at the meeting that **Tom Wright** has agreed to assume the role of President of the Ottawa/Hull chapter, effective immediately. Tom looks forward to being at the helm of the club and asks all members to continue their excellent support to the club's various initiatives and activities. On behalf of the executive committee and all members, Tom passed on sincere thanks to Rodolfo for his leadership and dedication to the club during his term as president. Rodolfo is not entirely off the hook, however, as he will remain on the executive committee and act as club *sommelier*. **Larry Gales** is taking over event reservations, and members should now be contacting Larry at lawrence.gales@sympatico.ca in order to reserve their spots.

Next meeting: Friday, February 18 An ethnic event!! We are pleased to announce that our Guest Chef will be **Maria de Guzman**, a Cordon Bleu, who will lead us through an authentic Spanish night. Please contact **Larry Gales** via e-mail to reserve your spot and request guest placements at: lawrence.gales@sympatico.ca. At this point we are in final discussions with chefs for the rest of the season and we will advise members accordingly. Please note that guests will be accommodated based on available space.

Annual Fundraising Event, Saturday April 23 Just around the corner, so start talking to your friends and business associates now – don't be disappointed, because this event has sold out in advance for years!! Note that reservations to this extravaganza can be made as of right now by contacting Larry Gales. Tickets are the same price as last year (\$125 per person), and we will be selling approximately 108 seats, or 9 tables of 12. As always, we promise a superb evening in the Marmiton tradition. In response to member queries, if you would like to reserve an entire table of 12, by all means, you may do so. More publicity will be available shortly, including the name of the guest chef. Let's all lend our support to this very worthwhile event. All members will be expected to pitch in – whether it is serving, plating, prep work etc. Get ready!!!

Uniforms: Richard has received a few requests for purchases of new jackets, hats etc. and will be placing an order on February 11. If you would like to order one, please contact Richard directly at rutar@rogers.com .

International Annual Event, Calgary, June 10-12, 2005. The Calgary chapter is hosting this year's Annual Event. By all accounts, it will be fantastic. Their web site is located on left side of the Marmitons International site at www.lesmarmitons.org You can reserve your spots on-line, as well as make your hotel reservations and book tours. (A reminder, if you have not let us know already, to let Larry Gales know with a brief e-mail if you are attending. This way, the club will be aware who and how many members will be going this year, and we can pass that on to the other attendees).

Note: If you have a suggestion for a future chef, please contact any member of the executive directly. Several members have actively participated in bringing in new chefs!

Subsequent 2005 dates:

- February 18
- March 18
- April 23, (Saturday) Annual Fundraising Event
- May 27
- June 10-12 – International Annual Event, Calgary Alberta

We look forward to seeing you on: **February 18th**

Regards, The Executive Committee.