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Upcoming Events:

- July 15 | **Brew at the Zoo**
Beer and Wine Tasting at the Henry Doorly Zoo
- **August 3 | Summer Social Event**
Omaha Storm Chasers at Werner Park

Upcoming Summer Social Event



The sponsored 2017 IFT-A summer social event will include dinner and an Omaha Storm Chasers game on Thursday, August 3. The casual meeting will consist of a picnic dinner with unlimited food, sides, and non-alcoholic beverages and tickets to the baseball game. In addition, Thursdays at Werner Park are \$1 Beer nights! The meeting will not include a speaker.

The evening's agenda is as follows:

6:00-7:30PM: All you can eat picnic— unlimited pulled pork, hot dogs, baked beans, chips, and non-alcoholic beverages at Ballpark Way

7:05PM: Game Starts

The cost to attend the event is IFT Members: \$5, Non-members: \$15. Stay tuned for emails containing more details and links to purchase tickets.

Congratulations to our 2017 IFT-A Scholarship Winners, Erica Lewis and Madison Kalb!

A Message from the Chair

The Aksarben Section of IFT has experienced a terrific year so far, thanks in large part to our enthusiastic and dedicated board members and volunteers. With the help of such a great team, Aksarben IFT has been able to hold a number of valuable events for our members, including networking,

educational, and philanthropic events.

In my role as president this year, I've enjoyed getting to know the community and helping to provide all of you with great opportunities for professional development and involvement. I hope to see even more of you participate in our upcoming



summer fun event and all of the great activities Aksarben IFT has in store next year!

-Melanie Downs, IFT-A Chair

IFT-Aksarben Summer Meet-up| Brew at the Zoo

Meet your friends with IFT-A for another summer fun event! We will be meeting up for a casual networking evening during the Henry Doorly Zoo's Brew at the Zoo event. There will be no formal agenda or speaker.

Join Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium for a suds sippin' safari as they host the fourth annual Brew at the Zoo event on Saturday, July 15, 2017 from 8 to 11 p.m. Guests 21 and over will enjoy a stroll through the Zoo and sample unique brews from dozens of local breweries, as well as a selection of locally produced wines. Spend your night with live music, food, fun games and, of course, the exotic animals of the Zoo.

General admission tickets are \$55 for Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium members and \$65 for non-members. What's included: Souvenir tasting glass, unlimited sampling of a variety of beers and wines, live music, up-close-and-personal encounters with our animals, fun adult games and much more!

VIP tickets are \$80 per person. Only 200 VIP tickets are available. What's included: In addition to all benefits listed above, VIP tickets also include admission to the VIP Pre-Party where guests will experience the event an hour earlier at 7 p.m., enjoy exclusive beer and wine tastings without the crowds, a free meal voucher and free drink ticket to the cash bar. VIP will also be able to take home a Brew at the Zoo souvenir glass mug!



This is an after-hours, adults-only event. You must be 21 years or older and have a valid ID for entry. No tickets will be available at the door.

To purchase tickets, or for more information, visit www.omahazoo.com/ and click "Special Events" under the News/About tab.

Check out our Facebook page for more information on the meet-up as the event approaches! www.facebook.com/IFTAksarben/

IFT-A Announced as a 2016- 2017 Section of Merit



Mike McCarthy, Associate Director of Section Administration at IFT announced on Thursday, May 25 that the IFT-Aksarben section will be recognized as a 2016-2017 Section of Merit. In an email, he stated:

This recognition symbolizes the section's commitment to IFT, section members, and the food

science and technology profession. You are vibrant communities of dedicated professionals that embody the spirit of IFT. The events held throughout the year, exemplary volunteer

service, excellence in leadership and dedication to the food science and technology profession demonstrate ongoing devotion to ensuring that the sections will flourish for years to come.

Congratulations on this achievement! Your section will be recognized in the Section Leader Update newsletter and in the Hall of Honor at IFT17.

-Mike McCarthy

Congratulations to all members of IFT-A and many thanks for your involvement and contributions to the field of food science and technology!

IFT Annual Meeting and Food Expo | Las Vegas, NV

This year's IFT Annual Meeting and Food Expo will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 25-28. A recent letter from the Fundraising committee for Feeding Tomorrow has asked for inclusion in this newsletter and is included below. If you or your company is interested in participating in this opportunity, please contact Jennifer Mancuso at jennifer.mancuso@gmail.com.

"I am a student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and serve on the Fundraising Committee for Feeding Tomorrow. This year marks our 17th annual Fun Run + Fitness event at the IFT Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. This year we are introducing a "Virtual Event Bag (<https://engage.active.com/demo/ultimate>)", which is a collection of digital coupons, vouchers and product incentives delivered right to our participants' email.

"Virtual Event Bag" is also a good marketing opportunities for companies to show their coupons, vouchers and product incentives to hundreds of participants, who are runners, walkers, yogis and fitness fanatics. We anticipate around 600 participants, but the number of people who redeem coupons could be less than that.

Would you help us to send out this marketing opportunity to companies in Aksarben section? Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, I'd be happy to set up a time to share more details on the event or virtual goodie bag. Thank you in advance for your consideration, we look forward to your positive reply.

*Sincerely,
Anuj Shanbhag,
M.S. Student,
University of Massachusetts Amherst."*

Interested in a unique marketing opportunity during the IFT AM & FE?

2017 Silent Auction and Raffle| Lucky Bucket Brewery and Cut Spike Distillery

On Thursday, March 30th, 2017, the IFT Aksarben Section held its annual Silent Auction fundraiser to support student scholarships. 54 people attended the event at Lucky Bucket Brewery and enjoyed an evening of local food, great raffle items, silent auction bidding, a brewery tour and networking opportunities. The evening showcased food from local restaurants including: Amsterdam Falafel, Ground Up Catering, Blackstone Meatball, Sweet Magnolias, Capital City Fruit and Hy-Vee. Tables featured silent auction bidding items as well as \$1 Raffle Ticket items all donated by food industry partners, local Omaha and Lincoln businesses, performing arts, sports teams, and some were even homemade!

The event raised over \$2,100 to fund UNL Food Science Student Scholarships for the upcoming year. The committee would like to thank all the volunteers, industry donors, local business support and attendees! We are already planning for next year!

Summary written by Celia Bravard, 2017 Silent Auction Committee

Photos at Right:

Top: IFT-A Members and guests peruse raffle items

Center: A taste of Nebraska: Catering from local venues

Bottom: Attendees representing ConAgra at the IFT-A event



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