

2016 BLUE RIDGE BBQ & MUSIC FESTIVAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 11, 2016 - Updated June 13, 2016

CONTACT: Brenda Bradshaw – 828-777-8990

PHOTOS ATTACHED: Credit Paula Roberts



PHOTO 1 CAPTION: Brickhead BBQ: Lori and Joe Loth with Shelby and Jake



PHOTO 2 CAPTION: Fired Up Smokers win Governor's Cup

Brickhead BBQ named Grand Champion at Blue Ridge BBQ & Music Festival Fired Up Smokers takes North Carolina Championship – Governor's Cup

The 2016 Grand Champion of the Blue Ridge BBQ & Music Festival is Brickhead BBQ, from Linn Creek, Missouri. This was their first time competing at the Tryon contest.

Team members Lori and Joe Loth usually do their competition cooking in the area around Missouri where they live; but this year, their niece was graduating from High School in Virginia, and they planned a family vacation around that event—including taking time out to compete in Tryon along the way. It proved to be a good decision as the husband and wife team, with some tasting and critiquing assistance from son Jake, 12, and daughter Shelby, 10, claimed the top honors, with an exceptional overall score of slightly over 710 points.

“It feels good,” Lori said, “we’ve had a wonderful time, and the kids really enjoyed the whole festival. We’ve met and made many new friends here.”

The team did well in all four categories earning two second place finishes—in Ribs and Pork, a fourth in Brisket and a seventh in Chicken.

Joe said Brickhead BBQ has competed in about six events this past year with their best finish the Grand Championship at St. James, Missouri.

The couple agreed that this would not be their last visit to the Blue Ridge BBQ Festival.

Fired Up Smokers, led by Fred Woodard of Fremont, NC, was the highest scoring North Carolina team and as such claimed the title North Carolina State Champion and received the coveted Governor's Cup trophy – which is actually a one-of-a-kind ceramic platter depicting a pig, a chicken and a cow. The team finished seventh overall.

Hambones by the Fire, led by Rick Hamilton from Yorktown, Virginia, was named Reserve Grand Champion (second place finish). Defending Champion, Rocky Top, led by Walt Moulton from Jonesborough, Tennessee, finished third.

###