Lodi Rotary Shrimp Mania 2020

Shrimp Mania has come and gone again. This annual event is the club's major fundraiser for the year. It seems every service club tries to take advantage of crab and shrimp season – poor crabs and shrimp.

Our event was held on February 8th at the Japanese Culture Center in Lodi this year as it has been for the last two years. Even though we tried to stay away from conflicting celebration dates we managed to schedule the same weekend as Lodi's famous Wine and Chocolate event. But despite this, the event was a great success; we had close to 200 (the hall will hold 220).

Our event was MC'd by our IPP Kirk Stangeland, (The microphone was taken from Kirk more than once by the President). The live auction and raffle were supervised by DGE Sherry Cotta. Additionally, Sherry experimented with a recipe for blueberry margaritas which we are sure accounted for the generous bidding that took place.





We were honored to have DG Jim Pierce in attendance along with DGE Sherry Cotta. Jim pictured on the left being introduced by President Mike Hodge. On the right the Master Chefs (Dan Ingrum, Mike Smith, Greg Evans, Jeff Thompson and Mark Chandler). The menu has remained the same for the last three years: Cajon boil shrimp with small potatoes, cobettes, sausage, pasta, salad, bread, salad and cupcakes.





We have kept the price down to \$55 (includes one drink) for the last two years. Our master chefs tend to the details of the meal while other Rotarians pitch in with covering everything else. Finances are not complete, but it looks like we made over \$20,000 this year.





We had our Interact club serve and help with cleanup and boy did they earn their money. For that nifty service they walked away with a check from the club for \$500 and over \$600 in tips from grateful guests. Dinner was started with shrimp cocktail and finished with cupcakes with our signature topper.





Pictured on the left Sherry Cotta supervising the auction and raffle. We had some wonderful donated gifts for live auction which included one week stays in condominiums anywhere in the world and a flight for two over the Golden Gate bridge (pictured on the right).



For those of curious about the menu below is a partial shopping list of ingredients. The image on the right is shrimp mascot pictured in the advertisement for the event.





Most of all we had fun. The money raised by this event will go fund community projects in Lodi. Amongst the many groups we support are the WOW Science Museum, the Village for Developmentally Disabled, local schools, Love Lodi Day, the Law Enforcement Chaplaincy and many others. This year our club helped the Downtown Batangas Rotary Club to buy an Ultrasound Machine for the regional hospital. Next year our club celebrates our Centennial. Lodi Rotary was chartered in the Spring of 1921.

(Submitted by Mike Hodge, President Lodi Rotary)