



## SECRET RECIPE FOR SUCCESS



Sharks-R-Us, a team of 42 attorneys, won the Reserve Grand Champion prize in the ribs category at the 2011 World Championship Bar-B-Que Contest at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Chief cook Stewart Gagnon (fourth from left) displays the team's trophy.

**W**hat do you get when you combine a team of 42 Houston attorneys who call themselves Sharks-R-Us, a super-secret recipe, pork ribs cooked at 250 degrees for five hours on a giant pit, and the largest livestock show and rodeo in the world?

Yeeeeeehaw! You get the 2011 Reserve Grand Champion prize in the ribs category at the World Championship Bar-B-Que Contest. The contest, which helps raise money for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's scholarship fund, has kicked off the annual rodeo since 1974.

The 2011 Sharks-R-Us barbecue cook-off crew was one of more than 400 volunteer teams competing for trophies in three categories — brisket, chicken, and ribs.

"The team has been together for 19 years," says chief cook **Stewart Gagnon**, a partner in Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. in Houston, who serves as a section representative to the State Bar Board of Directors. "We have lawyers from large firms and we have sole practitioners. It's a diverse group with representation from different areas of practice."

"Some of us are also members of the rodeo's legal advisory committee," he adds.

In addition to concentrating their culinary talents on winning a prize in their cooking category, each team also provided food and entertainment to invited guests. For the lawyers in the Sharks-R-Us tent, that meant feeding about 500 people a day for three days.

"We served 500 pounds of jalapeño cheese sausage, 200 pounds of pork tenderloin with a raspberry chipotle sauce, and 500 pounds of our specialty — beef fajitas," Gagnon says.

As you can imagine, it takes a big pit to prepare that much meat. The cooking surface alone is 10-feet long and about three-feet deep. In addition to a cutting area, the Sharks-R-Us barbecue trailer has a kitchen area in the front and a propane burner in the back.

Just listening to Gagnon describe the Sharks-R-Us award-winning ribs with words such as "tender" and "spicy" will make your mouth water. But don't bother asking for the recipe. "That's a closely guarded secret." ❄️

**Sharks-R-Us Members:** Staton Childers; Zack Clement; Craig Cowgill; Bo Dawson; George Demontrond; Bud Ehrlich; Steve Estes; Dick Fuqua; Stewart Gagnon; Erik D. Garza; Jerry Guerinot; Robin Holland; Daniel Horowitz; John Hutchison; Joe Indelicato; Charles Koerth; Bill Lafuze; Dick Law; Daniel Lemkuil; Brandon Lobb; Joe Meyer; Shannon Moore; Billy Murphy; Bo Nichols; John F. Nichols, Sr.; Shawn O'Brien; Angela Pence England; Harry Perrin; Kevin Peter; Ozell Price; Jack Rains; Bill Ramey; John Ransom; Charles Rogers; John Spalding; Will Stukenberg; Brian Trachtenberg; John Wade; Brad Whitus; Lorraine Wilson; Ken Wise; and Willie Wood. **Honorary Members:** Bob Higgs, C.F. Kendall, Al Kimball, Ross Margraves, and Alan Tinsley.



Houston attorney and movie critic Larry W. Harrison

## TEXAS PEOPLE

Justice **Dori Contreras Garza**, of the 13th Court of Appeals in Edinburg, was named 2011–12 chair of the board of directors of the Good Samaritan Community Services Rio Grande Valley, which addresses the critical needs of youth in the area.



Gov. Rick Perry appointed **Shannon McClendon**, a shareholder in Webking McClendon, P.C. in Austin, to the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board for a term to expire Jan. 31, 2012. The board is charged with adopting rules for the licensing and certification of real estate appraisers in the state.



**Michelle Schulz**, a partner in Braumiller Schulz, L.L.P. in Dallas, was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke to serve on the President's Export Council Subcommittee on Export Administration (PECSEA). The subcommittee serves as a senior-level advisory body to the Department of Commerce and its Bureau of Industry and Security.



**Larry Waks**, a partner in Jackson Walker, L.L.P. in Austin, was named chair of the Litigation Division and a member of the governing committee of the American Bar Association's Forum on Entertainment and Sports Industries. Waks will oversee the litigation division and help create and support initiatives to enhance the Forum's mission.



Every Friday at noon, Sugar Land attorney **Larry W. Harrison** shuts off his computer, steps away from his desk, and goes to see a movie. Since 1997, Harrison has been writing film reviews under the name "Larry H" on his website, [www.larryhmoviereviews.com](http://www.larryhmoviereviews.com). Larry H's movie critiquing rules? "There are no rules; if there were rules, Larry would break them. Do not let training and education burden one's writing."

"I have always loved the movies," Harrison says. "I started writing reviews almost 15 years ago and it just grew from there." Harrison, who is a member of the Houston Film Critics Society, also writes reviews for the *Fort Bend Independent*. Although he gets invited to advance screenings of movies, Harrison says he prefers to go to his local theater in Sugar Land. "All I need is my Mr. Pibb and popcorn. Some movie critics can be less than mainstream and I like to get the flavor of the public."

Each year, Harrison presents the "Sugar Awards" to his favorite films. "Everyone has their list of awards," he says. "It's not necessarily who is going to win the Oscar, but who should win — if Larry H was in charge." This year, Sugar

Awards went to *True Grit* ("A good yarn about murder, redemption, blood, and too much whiskey."), Colin Firth and Geoffrey Rush in *The King's Speech* ("This film will have a lasting legacy because of the superb acting and repartee between Firth and Rush."), and — in the biggest departure from the Academy — the "worst movie" award went to *The Last Airbender* ("I'm becoming weary thinking about *The Last Airbender*. The only person on a 'bender' that is connected to this project is the screenwriter; ok, the director, too.").

Harrison fell in love with movies — and the law — when he saw *To Kill a Mockingbird*. "My two worlds crashed that day. It's still my favorite movie. I revisit it often to see the courtroom scene. First among all lawyers is Atticus Finch, of course." And how do the other cinematic lawyers stack up? "There's no comparison! In general, Hollywood does a poor job of portraying legal matters accurately. In fact, it's difficult for me to enjoy movies that have lots of legal scenes," Harrison says.

Next on his list is *The Lincoln Lawyer*. To read this and other reviews, check out [www.larryhmoviereviews.com](http://www.larryhmoviereviews.com). \*