

Readers' Choice Awards '08

This is all about you. What's the best new restaurant? The top place to load up on Friday night fried fish and camp out on a patio to enjoy one of the dog days of summer? It's your turn to decide in the latest edition of our annual dining awards. Jump in anywhere – at Mexican food, burgers or the best deal in town. But before you do, here are the winners of our random drawing and their prizes. Congratulations to the following readers: Sara Mills, tickets to the Milwaukee Wine Festival in August at Milwaukee Art Museum, along with a gift certificate to Café Calatrava; Jane Zien, "Dine with Wine Dinner for Two" at Weissgerber's Seven Seas; Peggy Laz, two free admissions to a Milwaukee Art Museum feature exhibition; Debbie Taibl, gift certificate to the Butler Inn of Pewaukee; Marilyn Vollrath, gift certificate to a Bartolotta restaurant; and Lindsay Timmerman, gift card to StoneFire Pizza. ★ = Critic's Choice

Your Favorites »

NEW RESTAURANT (OPENED IN 2007-'08)

- 1 **Hinterland Erie Street Gastropub** • 222 E. Erie St., 414-727-9300
- 2 **Triskele's** • 1801 S. Third St., 414-837-5950
- ★ **Meritage** • 5921 W. Vliet St., 414-479-0620

MODERATELY PRICED RESTAURANT

- 1 **Water Buffalo** • 249 N. Water St., 414-431-1133
- 2 **Triskele's**
- ★ **Triskele's**

BEST DEAL IN TOWN

- 1 **Conejito's Place** • 539 W. Virginia St., 414-278-9106
- 2 **Triskele's**
- ★ **Classic Slice's** pizza by the slice • 2797 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., 414-238-2406

BEST VIEW

- 1 **Lake Park Bistro** • 3133 E. Newberry Blvd., 414-962-6300
- 2 **Roots Restaurant & Cellar** • 1818 N. Hubbard St., 414-374-8480
- ★ **Roots**

MOST ROMANTIC

- 1 **Lake Park Bistro**
- 2 **Sanford** • 1547 N. Jackson St., 414-276-9608
- ★ **Lake Park Bistro**

FAMILY

- 1 **Buca di Beppo** • 1233 N. Van Buren St., 414-224-8672

- 2 **StoneFire Pizza** • 5320 S. Moorland Rd., New Berlin, 262-970-8800

- ★ **Pizzeria Piccola** • 7606 W. State St., 414-443-0800

WINE LIST

- 1 **Pizza Man** • 1800 E. North Ave., 414-272-1747
- 2 **Bacchus** • Cudahy Tower, 925 E. Wells St., 414-765-1166
- ★ **Bacchus**

RESTAURANT AMBIANCE

- 1 **Lake Park Bistro**
- 2 **Bacchus**
- ★ **Coquette Café** • 316 N. Milwaukee St., 414-291-2655

BEER SELECTION

- 1 **Café Hollander** • 2608 N. Downer Ave., 414-963-6366
- 2 **Milwaukee Ale House** • 233 N. Water St., 414-226-2337
- ★ **Café Hollander**

SMALL PLATES/TAPAS

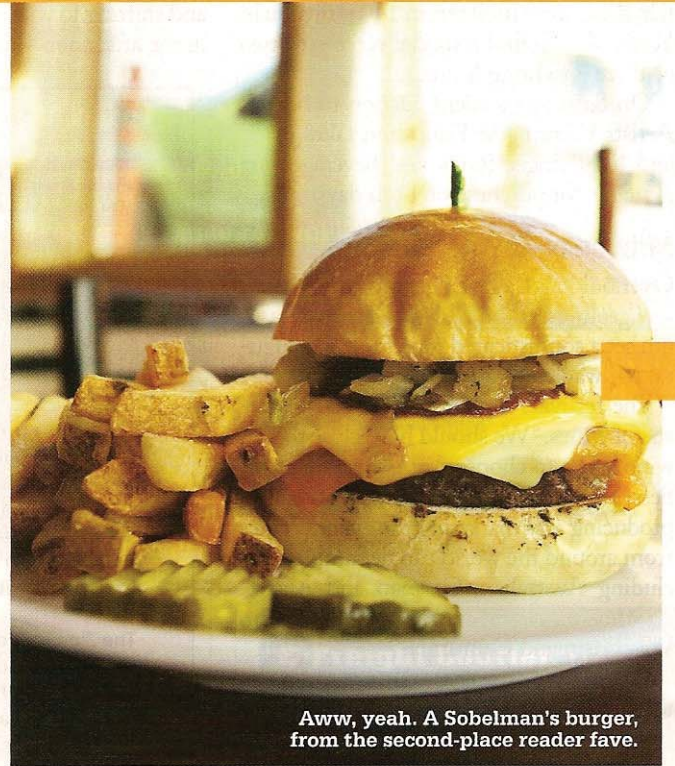
- 1 **La Merenda** • 125 E. National Ave., 414-389-0125
- 2 **Swig** • 217 N. Broadway, 414-431-7944
- ★ **La Merenda**

OUTDOOR DINING

- 1 **Trocadero** • 1758 N. Water St., 414-272-0205
- 2 **Water Buffalo**
- ★ **Roots**

HEALTHY DINING

- 1 **Beans & Barley** • 1901 E. North Ave., 414-278-7878



Aww, yeah. A Sobelman's burger, from the second-place reader fave.

- 2 **Roots Restaurant & Cellar**
- ★ **Roots**

CATERER

- 1 **Saz's** • 5420 W. State St., 414-256-8765
- 2 **Shully's Catering Inc.** • 146 N. Green Bay Rd., Thiensville, 262-242-6633
- ★ **Shully's**

SMOKE-FREE DINING

- 1 **Beans & Barley**
- 2 **Bosley on Brady** • 815 E. Brady St., 414-727-7975
- ★ **Sanford**

VEGETARIAN

- 1 **Beans & Barley**
- 2 **Roots Restaurant & Cellar**
- ★ **Roots**

SEAFOOD

- 1 **River Lane Inn** • 4313 W. River Ln., Brown Deer, 414-354-1995
- 2 **Devon Seafood Grill** • Bayshore Town Center, 5715 N. Bayshore Dr., 414-967-9790
- ★ **River Lane Inn and Roots**

STEAK

- 1 **Mr. B's: A Bartolotta Steakhouse** • 17700 W. Capitol Dr., Brookfield, 262-790-7005
- 2 **Eddie Martini's** • 8612 Watertown Plank Rd., Wauwatosa, 414-771-6680
- ★ **Jake's Restaurant** • 21445 Gumina Rd., Pewaukee, 262-781-7995

SOUP

- 1 **Soup Bros.** • 209 W. Florida St., 414-270-1040
- 2 **Soup Market** • 2211 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., 414-727-8462
- ★ **TLC Soup Company** • 324 E. Michigan St., 414-277-7687

LUNCH PLACE (NO CHAINS)

- 1 **City Market** • (three locations)
- 2 (tie) **Beans & Barley** and **Coquette Café**
- ★ The \$9.99, three-course lunch at **Yanni's Steakhouse** • 540 E. Mason St., 414-847-9264

FISH FRY

- 1 **Lakefront Brewery Palm Garden** • 1872 N. Commerce St.,

Top Category: Readers' Five Favorites

- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <h1>1</h1> <p>Lake Park Bistro
3133 E. Newberry Blvd.,
414-962-6300</p> | <h1>2</h1> <p>Bacchus
Cudahy Tower,
925 E. Wells St.,
414-765-1166</p> | <h1>3</h1> <p>Sanford
1547 N. Jackson St.,
414-276-9608</p> | <h1>4</h1> <p>Coquette Café
316 N. Milwaukee St.,
414-291-2655</p> | <h1>5</h1> <p>Ristorante Bartolotta
7616 W. State St.,
414-771-7910</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- 414-273-8300
- 2 American Serb Memorial Hall** • 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., 414-545-6030
- ★ **Brocach Irish Pub** • 1850 N. Water St., 414-431-9009

DESSERT

- 1 Sanford**
- 2 Lake Park Bistro**
- ★ **Sanford**

Excellent Ethnics >>

AFRICAN

- 1 Ethiopian Cottage** • 1824 N. Farwell Ave., 414-224-5226
- 2 Alem Ethiopian Village** • 307 E. Wisconsin Ave., 414-224-5324
- ★ **Ethiopian Cottage**

CAJUN/NEW ORLEANS STYLE

- 1 Crawdaddy's** • 6414 W. Greenfield Ave., 414-778-2228
- 2 Maxie's Southern Comfort** • 6732 W. Fairview Ave., 414-292-3969
- ★ **Maxie's**

CHINESE

- 1 Emperor of China** • 1010 E. Brady St., 414-271-8889
- 2 Yen Ching** • 7630 W. Good Hope Rd., 414-353-6677
- ★ **Jing's Chinese Restaurant** • 207 E. Buffalo St., 414-271-7788

CUBAN

- 1 Cubanitas** • 728 N. Milwaukee St., 414-225-1760
- 2 Hemingway's Habana Vieja**, which, alas, no longer serves food • 626 S. Fifth St., 414-273-6000
- ★ **Cubanitas**

INDIAN

- 1 Maharaja** • 1550 N. Farwell Ave., 414-276-2250
- 2 Tandoor Restaurant** • 1117 S. 108th St., 414-777-1600
- ★ **Mayura** • 1958-62 N. Farwell Ave., 414-271-8200

FRENCH

- 1 Coquette Café**
- 2 Lake Park Bistro**
- ★ **Coquette Café**

GERMAN

- 1 Karl Ratzsch's** • 320 E. Mason St., 414-276-2720
- 2 Mader's German Restaurant** • 1037 N. Old World Third St., 414-271-3377
- ★ Don't have one. It's time for someone to step it up.

GREEK

- 1 Apollo Café** • 1310 E. Brady St., 414-272-2233
- 2 Ouzo Café** • 776 N. Milwaukee St., 414-272-6896
- ★ **Ditto** (see Critic's Choice for German)

ITALIAN

- 1 Ristorante Bartolotta** • 7616 W. State St., 414-771-7910
- 2 Osteria del Mondo** • 1028 E. Juneau Ave., 414-291-3770
- ★ **Ristorante Bartolotta** or **Sala da Pranzo** • 2613 E. Hampshire Ave., 414-964-2611

JAPANESE

- 1 Nanakusa** • 408 E. Chicago St., 414-223-3200
- 2 Izumi's** • 2150 N. Prospect Ave., 414-271-5278
- ★ **Japanica** • 4918 S. 74th St., 414-281-9868

KOREAN

- 1 Seoul Korean Restaurant** • 2178 N. Prospect Ave., 414-289-8208
- 2 Sake Tumi** • 714 N. Milwaukee St., 414-224-7253
- ★ **Seoul**

MEXICAN

- 1 La Fuente** • 625 S. Fifth St., 414-271-8595
- 2 Botanas** • 816 S. Fifth St., 414-672-3755
- ★ Not right now.

MIDDLE EASTERN

- 1 Casablanca** • 728 E. Brady St., 414-271-6000
- 2 Shahrazad** • 2847 N. Oakland Ave., 414-964-5475
- ★ **Casablanca**

POLISH

- 1 Polonez** • 4016 S. Packard Ave., 414-482-0080
- 2 Crocus** • 3577 S. 13th St., 414-643-6383
- ★ **Polonez**



Crazy Water's very sane dining room.

SERBIAN

- 1 Three Brothers** • 2414 S. St. Clair St., 414-481-7530
- 2 Old Town Serbian Gourmet House** • 522 W. Lincoln Ave., 414-672-0206
- ★ **Three Brothers**

THAI

- 1 Singha Thai** • 2237 S. 108th St., 414-541-1234 and 780 N. Jefferson St., 414-226-0288
- 2 The King & I** • 830 N. Old World Third St., 414-276-4181
- ★ **Singha Thai**

More Favorites >>

DELI SANDWICH

- 1 Jake's Delicatessen** • 1634 W. North Ave., 414-562-1272
- 2 (tie) Benji's** • 4156 N. Oakland Ave., 414-332-7777; and **Milwaukee Waterfront Deli** • 761 N. Water St., 414-220-9300
- ★ **Jake's Delicatessen**

COFFEE SHOP

- 1 Alterra** • (eight cafe locations)
- 2 Starbucks** • (a location on every corner, or so it seems)
- ★ **Alterra**

HOT DOG

- 1 Sammy's Taste of Chicago** • 10534 W. Greenfield Ave., 414-774-0390
- 2 Martino's Italian Beef** • 1215 W. Layton Ave., 414-281-5580
- ★ **Usinger's** wieners grilled at home.

FROZEN CUSTARD

- 1 Kopp's** (three locations)
- 2 Leon's** • 3131 S. 27th St.,

414-383-1784

★ **Leon's**

FREE HAPPY HOUR EATS

- 1 Metro Bar & Café** • Hotel Metro, 411 E. Mason St., 414-225-3270
- 2 Taylor's** • 795 N. Jefferson St., 414-271-2855
- ★ I eat them very sparingly.

MARTINI

- 1 Elsa's on the Park** • 833 N. Jefferson St., 414-765-0615
- 2 Eddie Martini's**
- ★ **Elsa's**

BRUNCH

- 1 Lake Park Bistro**
- 2 (tie) Pandl's in Bayside** • 8825 N. Lake Dr., 414-352-7300; and **Trocadero**
- ★ **Roots Restaurant & Cellar**

BURGER

- 1 Elsa's on the Park**
- 2 Sobelman's** • 1900 W. St. Paul Ave., 414-931-1919
- ★ **Mason Street Grill** • Pfister Hotel, 425 E. Mason St., 414-298-3131

PIZZA (NO CHAINS)

- 1 Pizza Man** • 1800 E. North Ave., 414-272-1747
- 2 Zaffiro's Pizza** • 1724 N. Farwell Ave., 414-289-8776
- ★ **Marchese's Olive Pit** • 1100 S. First St., 414-384-9555

BARBECUE

- 1 Speed Queen** • 1130 W. Walnut St., 414-265-2900
- 2 Saz's** • 5539 W. State St., 414-453-2410
- ★ **Speed Queen** ■