



MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION

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Grocers Award Creative Contest Best of Show Winners

Coveted Awards for Cake Decorating, Deli Tray Display, Floral Arrangement, and Gift Basket Design

St. Paul, MN - The Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) is pleased to announce the Best of Show Winners for the 2009 Creative Contest which was held on July 26 - 28, 2009 at the MGA Annual Convention in Brainerd, Minnesota. The event was attended by over 375 industry representatives.

The Creative Contest Awards recognizes the best in cake decorating, deli tray display, floral arrangement and gift basket design. All must demonstrate use of the event's theme, "Wild West." Entries are submitted by grocers from across the state in each category. All entries are judged by a panel of industry experts, and winners are selected based on creativity, theme, difficulty and budget. Additionally, a Peoples' Choice is awarded by industry peers in attendance. Winners of the Best of Show Awards each receive a grand prize of \$200, courtesy of the Minnesota Grocers Association.

The winner for **Best of Show in Cake Decorating** was **Cub Foods, Shorewood, MN**. The cake was a detailed design depicting a western desert frontier and the use of the event's logo created added difficulty. This entry was the talk of the evening taking the honors of the **Peoples' Choice Award**.

The **Deli Tray Design** winning **Best of Show** was from **Mackenthun's Fine Foods, Waconia, MN** and showed a cowboy's guitar made of bite-sized wrap sandwiches. The entry used great imagination.

The **Best of Show** winner for **Floral Arrangement** was **Cub Foods, Plymouth, MN**. The arrangement incorporated a cowboy and boots with gerbera daisies in a lovely showcase of the theme while creating brightness and energy.

Winning **Best of Show** in the **Gift Basket Display** was an ingenious design incorporating a kettle, woodchips and countless cowboy snacks provided by **Lunds – Navarre, MN**.

All participating company finalists did an outstanding job captivating the spirit of the "Wild West" and Minnesotans would be fortunate to have any of the Minnesota Grocers Association members add a touch of uniqueness to their next gathering. Invite your local grocer to get creative – they do it so well!

The Minnesota Grocers Association is a state trade association representing the food retail industry since 1897. With over 200 retail members operating nearly 1,200 stores statewide, as well as 120 manufacturers and distributors, the MGA is truly the voice of the industry. Our member companies employ over 85,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. Focusing on the importance of the consumers, careers and communities, we actively advance the common interests of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

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