



**2015
INDUCTEE**



PAUL KIRK

Pitmaster Category

Paul Kirk, known in many circles as the Kansas City Baron of Barbecue, has won more than 545 cooking and barbecue awards since his first competition at the 1981 American Royal Barbecue. His accolades include seven World Championships, and his storied barbecue career is highlighted by victories at the American Royal World Series of Barbecue® Open Contest, American Royal Invitational Contest and The Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational Barbecue.

Author or co-author of 12 barbecue books, Paul has also directed the Baron's School of Pitmasters for 17 years. He is a founding member of the Kansas City Barbeque Society and served 24 years on the Board of Directors. He has also trained barbecue restaurant staffs across the United States and conducted seminars at national conventions for the International Association of Culinary Professionals (IACP). In 1998 and 2000, he was a member of The Julia Child BBQ Team of Ten at the IACP conventions, raising funds for the Julia Child Endowment Foundation.

Paul writes monthly columns for Kansas City Bullsheat, the National Barbecue News, and the Goat Gap Gazette. He has appeared on the "Today Show," Discovery Channel, "CBS This Morning," "Talk Soup," and Anthony Bourdain's "In Search of the Perfect Meal." He has been featured in the AARP's Modern Maturity Magazine, Saveur and the Calgary Herald.

Paul has taken his barbecue knowledge on the road across the United States and abroad to countries including Norway, South Korea, Ireland, Canada, London and Switzerland.