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NEBS Member Spotlight Of The Month

GottaQ Smokehouse/Food Truck & Catering

Tell us about GottaQ.

We launched on April 25th, 2014 at Eat, Drink RI Food Truck TruckStop, an annual Fundraiser for RI FoodBank and we've never looked back! GottaQ is the creation of Janice and Michael Strout in a venture that has grown from one little BBQ foodtruck to three foodtrucks, a festival BBQ trailer, a "Quick Serve" Restaurant. It was voted as Mobile Cuisine Magazine's 2017 and 2018 #1 BBQ Food Truck in the USA.



Tell us more about how you prepare your food and what you cook with. GottaQ uses a savory dry rub on its meats with both Oak and Hickory wood and pellets. We can prepare as much as 7000 lbs of meat per week for about seven (7) months of the year.

Tell us more about your team. As our business grew and became too much for one person to handle we added Anthony Mardenly as a Business Partner. Anthony brings vast catering, kitchen, and commissary experience to help us grow, remain ahead of the BBQ and help with the ever changing mobile food vending laws. Both Michael and Anthony now serve on the NEBS Board of Directors to represent BBQ from a non-competition point of view. Also, they are both active in teaching NEBS cooking classes, preparing meats for KCBS Judging classes or joining other competition pitmasters in cooking to Feed the Homeless in an Initiative Called "Hunger Smoked" which is the Vision of Mic and Kim Stanfield of the team BooBoo Qued.

What is currently going on at GottaQ? In February 2016 we opened our first brick and mortar which is an eat-in-takeout located at 2000 Mendon Rd in Cumberland RI. Currently, we are working on our biggest expansion to date which is a 150 seat full service BBQ restaurant that will house our catering and food truck operation. It will also be the home of "Team GottaQ" GottaQ Competition and Grilling Team which will debut this Spring. Stay Tuned!