

# It's not all stars and gems; a Golden Spoon is an honor

Sean Murphy of Beach Bistro may have reservations about Mobil and AAA ratings, but he has nothing but praise for the Golden Spoon Awards, maintained by Florida Trend Magazine for 40 years by reviewer Robert Tolf. "It's done by people very knowledgeable about restaurants in our area," Murphy says.

Awards are determined through public balloting and follow-up visits by a reviewer. Tolf, who retired in January,

has been replaced by Chris Sherman and works as a consultant. Highlights:

Golden Spoon Hall of Fame: Beach Bistro, Euphemia Haye, Michael's On East  
2007 honorees: The Colony Dining Room, Mattison's Steakhouse, Vernona  
Top 500:

Sarasota: Barnacle Bill's, Bijou Café, C'est la Vie, Café L'Europe, Captain Brian's, DaRuMa, Demetrio's, Fred's, Ivo's Ristorante, Marina Jack, Michael's On East, Pacific

Rim, Patrick's, Phillippi Creek-Village Restaurant and Oyster Bar, Roy's Restaurant, Rustic Grill, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, Selva Grill, Thai Garden, Vernona, Yoder's and Zoria

Longboat Key: Café on the Bay, The Colony Dining Room, Euphemia Haye, Harry's Continental Kitchens, Mattison's Steakhouse, and Pattigeorge's

Siesta Key: Bella Roma Ristorante, Ophelia's on the Bay

Nokomis: Saltwater Café  
Holmes Beach: Beach Bistro and Da Giorgio Ristorante  
Palmetto: Mangrove Grill