French Crepes filled with Tomato Jam, Tomato Ice Cream, Basil Syrup Jose Luis Hernandez, Johnson County Community College, Lenexa, KA Winning entry in 2008 Florida Tomato Committee Recipe Contest

<u>Ingredient</u> <u>Quantity</u>
Sugar As directed

Fully ripened fresh Florida tomatoes 7 pounds

Port wine 1 cup

Fresh grated ginger 1 teaspoon

Ground cinnamon 1/2 teaspoon

Salt As directed

Heavy cream 1 1/2 cups

Milk 3/4 cup

Large egg yolks 6

Crème fraiche 1 tablespoon

Fresh basil 1/4 cup, loosely packed

Crepes Recipe follows

- 1. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Preheat oven to 200°F.
- 2. To prepare Sugar Syrup: In a small saucepan combine 1/2 cup sugar and 1/2 cup water; bring to a boil; set aside.
- 3. To prepare Tomato Skins: Arrange a rack on a tray. Coat rack with non-stick cooking spray. Score skin on each tomato in 4 equidistant places. Drop several at a time into boiling water until skins loosen, about 10 seconds; set aside to cool. When cool enough to handle, peel off skins; dip 20 pieces of skin into sugar syrup; place on prepared tray. Reserve remaining syrup. Dry tomato skins in oven until crisp but not browned, 30 to 40 minutes; set aside.
- 4. To prepare Tomato Jam: Quarter, seed and coarsely chop enough tomatoes to make 2 quarts, reserving seeds and juice. Place chopped tomatoes in a heavy saucepan. Add 3/4 cup sugar, the port, ginger, cinnamon and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until mixture is thick and jam like,

- about 45 minutes. Remove from heat; set aside until cool; crumble into 1/2 inch pieces.
- Meanwhile, coarsely chop remaining uncooked tomatoes. Place in a blender container with reserved uncooked tomato seeds and liquid. Blend until smooth; strain puree; set aside.
- 6. To prepare Tomato Ice Cream: In a medium-sized, heavy saucepan whisk together cream, 1 cup sugar, milk and 1/8 teaspoon salt. Heat, stirring frequently, just until mixture comes to a simmer. Meanwhile, in a small bowl whisk egg yolks. Very gradually whisk hot mixture into yolks; return mixture to saucepan. Cook, stirring constantly, just until it simmers. Remove from heat; whisk in 2 cups of the reserved tomato puree and the crème fraiche. Reserve remaining puree, if any, for another sue. Refrigerate, covered, until cool. Transfer to an ice cream maker; process until frozen. Serve or transfer to a freezer container and freeze until ready to serve.
- 7. To prepare Basil Syrup: In a heavy saucepan, combine reserved sugar syrup and basil; bring to a boil. Transfer to a blender container; whirl until smooth. Strain and set aside.
- 8. <u>To prepare Crepes</u>: In a bowl combine 3/4 cup flour, 3/4 cup milk, 2 eggs, 2 tablespoons oil, 2 tablespoons sugar and 1/8 teaspoon salt until smooth. Heat a 6-inch crepe pan; very lightly wipe with oil. Pour about 1 1/2 tablespoons batter at a time into pan, swirling to cover the bottom; cook until bubbly and bottom is golden. Turn and cook just long enough to lightly brown; remove and set aside. Repeat to make 12 crepes, wiping pan with oil when needed.
- To serve: Spread 12 crepes with warm Tomato Jam; roll up. Place 2 crepes on the center of each plate. Top with a scoop of Tomato Ice Cream and a drizzle of Basil Syrup. Garnish with Crisp Tomato Skins.

YIELD: 6 portions