

# Experience 55 Years of Greatness at Bill Johnson's Big Apple Restaurants

By Lori Romano



**T**hese days, good restaurants come and go, but great ones stick around forever. When Bill Johnson—legendary entrepreneur, pilot, actor, stuntman, hypnotist, inventor and cowboy—opened his first Big Apple location at 37th and Van Buren in Phoenix in 1956, there was no question that it was destined to be something special.

“We are a genuine, 55-year-old, unique family business,” CEO Sherry Cameron explains. “This is not some big chain restaurant. You’ll find 3rd generation Johnson’s, like myself, working and eating at the restaurants, and you’ll experience something authentically Arizona. We have sawdust on the floor, incredible servers with ‘guns’ on their hips, and the best apple pie in town!”

If you’re looking for big plates of scrumptious food, served by a staff that makes you feel like family, then step right in to one of Bill Johnson’s Big Apple Restaurants. Early birds will be delighted by Big Apple’s breakfast menu. Many locals crave the Chicken Fried Steak ‘n Eggs, smothered in country gravy. Or, try the Wrangler Special made from the Johnson family’s signature French toast or Hot Cakes served with two eggs, and your choice of bacon, sausage or ham.

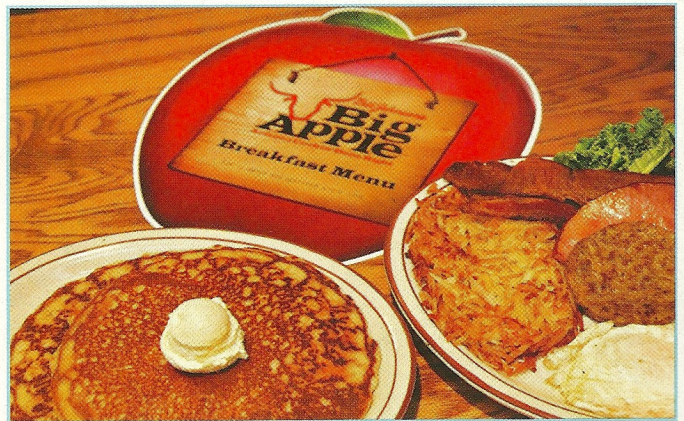
If you’re dropping in for lunch or dinner, start your meal off right with the Big Bill’s Sampler Platter piled high with onion

rings, fried zucchini, potato skins, buttermilk-breaded popcorn shrimp and hot wings. If you’re looking to keep things light, try one of Bill’s signature soups or salads, like the Serious Sirloin Steak Salad made from succulent strips of sirloin, green onion, tomatoes, mushrooms, cucumbers, and bell pepper, and served with homemade croutons, a dinner roll, and a choice of Bill Johnson’s homemade dressings. Or tantalize your taste buds with an order of award-winning chili made with slow-simmered beef and beans and topped with cheddar and diced onion.

“You’ve got to start with our BBQ ribs and chicken. Perhaps try the Cowboy Combo Blow Out,” Cameron says. With a plate piled high with pork ribs, beef ribs, chicken, and spicy hot links, you won’t be disappointed. Or, order the Make Your Own Smoked Combo and pick three of your favorites from your choices of pork ribs, beef ribs, pulled pork, smoked brisket, hot links or barbecue smoked chicken. All meals include a choice of potato, soup or salad, barbecue beans, a daily vegetable, and homemade dinner roll. Dine at Bill Johnson’s, and you won’t have to worry about leaving hungry.

Be sure to check out the special deals on the website and social media pages, as well as a 1-2-3 Happy Hour with \$1 draft beer, \$2 domestic bottle beer, and \$3 margaritas and well drinks. With additional West Valley locations at 19th Ave. and Bell Road and 31st Ave. and Indian School Road, Bill Johnson’s Big Apple Restaurant is a great place to wind down the day with friends, or catch up with family over dinner.

“When you come to Bill Johnson’s, come hungry, and come wanting mouth-watering BBQ,” Cameron says. “You’re going to have a wonderful dining experience, and you’ll find smiles, friendly faces, a warm atmosphere, and plenty of food. And why cook when you can cater or grab some take-out? Call any of our restaurants to order or make the arrangements for your next gathering.”



Bill Johnson’s Big Apple Restaurant  
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