

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kristie Poehler
Hawthorne Hotel
978-825-4364
kpoehler@hawthornehotel.com
www.hawthornehotel.com

PUMPKIN CONTESTS A TREAT DURING OCTOBER
The Hawthorne Hotel offers two contests during the month with great success!

Salem, MA, December 15, 2008 – Each year, *the Hawthorne Hotel* finds the biggest pumpkin it can and exhibits the pumpkin in the lobby. Each year, we invite our guests to guess the weight of the pumpkin. A Hawthorne Hotel tradition, our guests look forward to putting on their thinking caps. Instead of one large pumpkin, Executive Chef Steve Nelson went to a local field and made a purchase directly from the grower. He found a family of pumpkins: one extra large one and two medium-sized pumpkins to go along with it. The first contest we asked our guests to take part in was to *Name the Pumpkin Family*.

Amid names like The Gourdots, Gourd-geous George & Family, and The Bulgers (?), a perfect name was chosen and our family became the George Squashington Family! Many thanks go to the **Barry's from Sudbury, Massachusetts** for the winning guess. They received a gift certificate for our award-winning Sunday Jazz Brunch for two in Nathaniel's.

Our final October contest was to *Guess the Weight of the George Squashington Family*. One industrious young man guessed 6,402,468,145 and while we knew they weighed a lot, we figured that was a bit too much. The correct weight was 812 pounds and was guessed on the nose by **Lois Johnson from North Carolina**. She also won a gift certificate for brunch, but due to the long distance she would have to travel, Mrs. Johnson graciously asked us to donate the gift certificate to the Immaculate Conception Church of Salem—and so we did. Thank you Lois for your pre-holiday holiday spirit!

Together, we received 770 guesses. Thank you to all! We look forward to finding a new pumpkin or pumpkin family next year and to see what imaginative guesses come our way in 2009!



The Hawthorne Hotel was built by the public subscription as a joint venture of the Salem Chamber of Commerce and the Salem Rotary in 1925. Over one thousand people in the area purchased stock in order to create a “modern” hotel. Now, designated a “Historic Hotel of America,” the Hawthorne provides every amenity a “modern” traveler could desire and continues to welcome thousands of visitors every year. The hotel is 15 miles north of Boston and easily accessible from many major routes.

Historic Hotels of America is a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Historic Hotels has identified 191 hotels that have faithfully maintained their historic integrity, architecture and ambiance. To be selected for this prestigious program, a hotel must be at least 50 years old, listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or recognized as having historic significance.

#