

# Ham's family-style food earns positive reviews

**Jason Chick**  
Reporter

The original Ham's Restaurant opened in Greensboro in 1935, offering curb service, kosher meats and deli take-out food. Today, that tradition of fun, casual dining can be found at the Burlington Ham's Restaurant, located at 1610 S. Church St.

With only 16 locations, it is hard for this small chain to compete in the world of restaurants. However, Ham's has carved out its own niche in the restaurant community and is putting its own spin on familiar dishes.

A new menu offers some old favorites and many items featured at other chains along Huffman Mill Road.

New appetizers include Spinach Artichoke dip, \$4.99, reminiscent of the kind available at O'Charley's, Onion Petals, \$3.99, mocking those at Applebee's and, of course, Bacon Cheese Fries, \$5.99, just like those at Long Horn.

A word of advice: Leave those features for the other restaurants. At Ham's you'll want to try the unique Homemade Potato Chips, a heaping basket of freshly-fried potato chips served with Ranch dressing. So forget the diet today, they're worth it.

But don't stop at the appetizers. Ham's has soups, salads, burgers, wraps, pasta, sandwiches and more. There are even dessert specialties.

Dig right in to the entrees, such as Charlie's Cheeseburger, a generous portion of beef topped with American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayonnaise served on a Kaiser roll. Or go for the Smokestack, a pile of smoked turkey breast on a croissant with lettuce, tomato and mayo and topped with melted Swiss cheese and bacon.

How about a unique salad? The Mexican Salad comes with your choice of refried beans, grilled chicken or seasoned ground beef with diced Roma tomatoes, green peppers and shredded cheese on a bed of fresh greens and tortilla chips. This item is served with sour cream, salsa and jalapenos on the side.

The Chaz Ice Cream Brownie, Sis' Apple Crisp, the new Fried Cheesecake and Ham's Original Cheesecake complete the menu offerings.

At lunch there was no wait to get in. Parties were seated immediately, though the waitress seemed distracted. She was right on target at the beginning of the meal,

but she disappeared as the meal wore on. After she brought us the bill, we waited nearly 10 minutes for her to return.

The wait staff isn't the only thing a bit off in this place. The restroom floors were coated in cigarette ashes, a plastic cup full of beer sat atop one of the urinals and the entire latch to lock the stall was broken off and missing. So drink to your heart's content, but be forewarned: you might have to hold it till you get home.

If eating isn't on your agenda, Ham's can accommodate you. Many Elon students frequent their full-service bar. The bar is a lively place to be on Thursday nights, and is one of the more popular stops on the list for bar hoppers.

What if your night out doesn't happen to be in Burlington? You can find Ham's at three locations in

Greensboro: On High Point Road, Battleground Avenue and Friendly Avenue. There is also a location on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill for students who travel in the opposite direction.

Ham's is open for lunch and dinner. The chain also operates late-night hours at the bar. Whether you want a casual meal in a fun atmosphere, or you and your friends have a late-night beer in mind, Ham's can help you out. Reservations are not required.

Contact Jason Chick at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) or 278-7247.

## Spotlight on Ham's Signatures:

### Appetizers

Mozzarella Sticks \$3.99

### Soup-N-Salad

Vegetable Soup \$2.79

Oriental Chicken Salad \$5.99

### Burger Station

Two Car Burger \$8.49

### Wraps

Caribbean Chicken Wrap \$5.99

### Pasta & More



Jeff Heyer / Photo Editor

Ham's restaurant, located at 1610 S. Church Street, offers a wide variety of food selections, including homemade potato chips and cheeseburgers. All items are sold at fairly inexpensive prices. Regular seating is open for lunch and dinner, and the bar operates during late-night hours. Nightly entertainment is provided Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 570-3099.

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