



Newsletter July 2016

Field Days 2016

Sugarhouse Clean Up Day ~ August 6th

Saturday, August 6th beginning at 9 am. Please bring favorite cleaner and cleaning rags, buckets, brooms.

**MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!!
CONSIDER YOURSELF ASKED!**



Field Days ~ August 9th – 13th

Adam, Barb and Moe are going to be working to put everything together for Field Days with YOUR help! Adam will be covering ordering of supplies. Barb and Moe will handle staffing, passes and other “stuff”

NEW Guidelines/Rules – Please READ

*** Judging takes place on MONDAY.**

Entries will be accepted **Saturday from 9 am to 2 pm**, and **Sunday from Noon to 4pm**. Please contact Barb to make other arrangements. Judging will be late morning on Monday. As a reminder, we need a full PINT to judge. Syrup needs to be marked with a grade. Maple specialties need to have at least 1 cup of syrup – any grade. Recipes should accompany your goodies as well! Don't forget your name and mailing address for submissions, so we can send you your ribbon and possible prizes.

* **Check the sign-up sheet for NEW morning times.** We have too much help first thing in the morning so we are working to adjust the time to make it work best for everyone.

* **Green Mountain Pass Holders** In years past, GMP holders could get in free on certain days. Now it's just a discount, so if you are senior, please use our passes as it's a better deal for you.

* **Passes.** We love help! And we want everyone to come that can! Please let me know as soon as possible via the sign up sheet so we can get the passes out to you. If you have another way to get passes just tell us you don't need them!

* **Meal Tickets & T-Shirts.** We'll be offering meal tickets for folks that work a shift. The up to \$8 meal ticket will be good at **TONY's Pizza, Tony's Sausage, Lions, or AJ's (the old grange)** this year. If anyone works two shifts or more, we have a free ACSMA t-shirt. The t-shirts are tie dyed this year! Shirts are also available for sale \$15 each.

* We'll be cooking on Monday – candy, cream, etc...if you have some time to come and cook with us please stop by around 10ish and get us ready for Tuesday!

* Lucien Paquette will be celebrating his 100th Birthday on Sunday after Field Days so the sugarhouse will be doing some special things!

Contact Barb with any questions 453-5797 or rainvb@wcv.com.

News and Events

VMSMA

Notes from Dave Folino – Delegate from Addison County to VMSMA. Please feel free to contact Dave regarding any of these issues. He is our representative and needs to hear our concerns. dffolino@gmavt.net

~ All counties report above average crops for 2016. 125 – 140% of average. Canada also reported a good year.

~ The new jug design was approved and hopefully able to be ready for the Big E. If you have any questions regarding the new design, contact Matt (mgordon@vermontmaple.org)

~ It was voted unanimously to sell the mobile sugarhouse. If you are interested in more details contact Matt or Pam Green.

~ There was discussion at the last meeting on how to get the Agency of Ag and other certifiers to come up with harmonized regulations for sugarhouse certification.

~ Chuck Ross discussed the ramifications of the new clean water regulations. Sugaring is not on the top of the list. HOWEVER, we should try to proactively solve contaminations issues before outsiders try to design solutions for us.

IMSI

Coming this Fall to Burlington! October 26th – October 28th at the Hilton on the Waterfront. Many of our county members have been working VERY VERY hard to make this a great event. Visit their website at <http://www.internationalmaplesyrupinstitute.com> or <http://vermontmaple.org/2016> for more information.

To date ACSMA has contributed \$5,000 to help support the weekend.

Scholarship Winners

We had two great scholarship candidates this year and so the directors voted unanimously to give two \$500 awards this year. Addy Harris of Starksboro and Jacob Birchmore of Addison. Both of these young people have a wonderful interest in maple.

Addy works hard in the woods collecting sap and would like to use the money to buy a larger “gathering”

tank. “...we could collect more sap per load and take less trips.” That’s working smarter!!

Jacob is hoping to use his award to purchase more bottling supplies and molds for candy. “We would like to grow by experimenting with making candy and butter.” Field Days is a great place to learn candy making.

Special Fundraiser

The Lincoln United Church will be doing a special fundraiser for an orphanage in Haiti during Field Days. Many of our members are also members of the United Church. The Directors were approached to see if ACSMA would grant a special request to sell maple cream in their booth. ACSMA has exclusive rights to sell maple at the Fair. After discussion at the June 15th meeting with Bill Roleau, the ACSMA Directors voted unanimously help support their efforts.

Check out their raffle and items for sale in the Paquette Building during the Fair.

Big E Helpers Wanted

Do you like to talk maple? Want to support maple promotion across New England? Work at the Big E! Workers will be especially needed during the week. Many of the “regulars” have retired or just aren’t able to do the Fair anymore. Please consider a day or two. Mike Christian (mchrist@greenmountainpower.com) and Amanda Voyer (amandav@vermontmaple.org) are managing this year. If you are interested in helping out contact AMANDA for more information.

See You At The FAIR